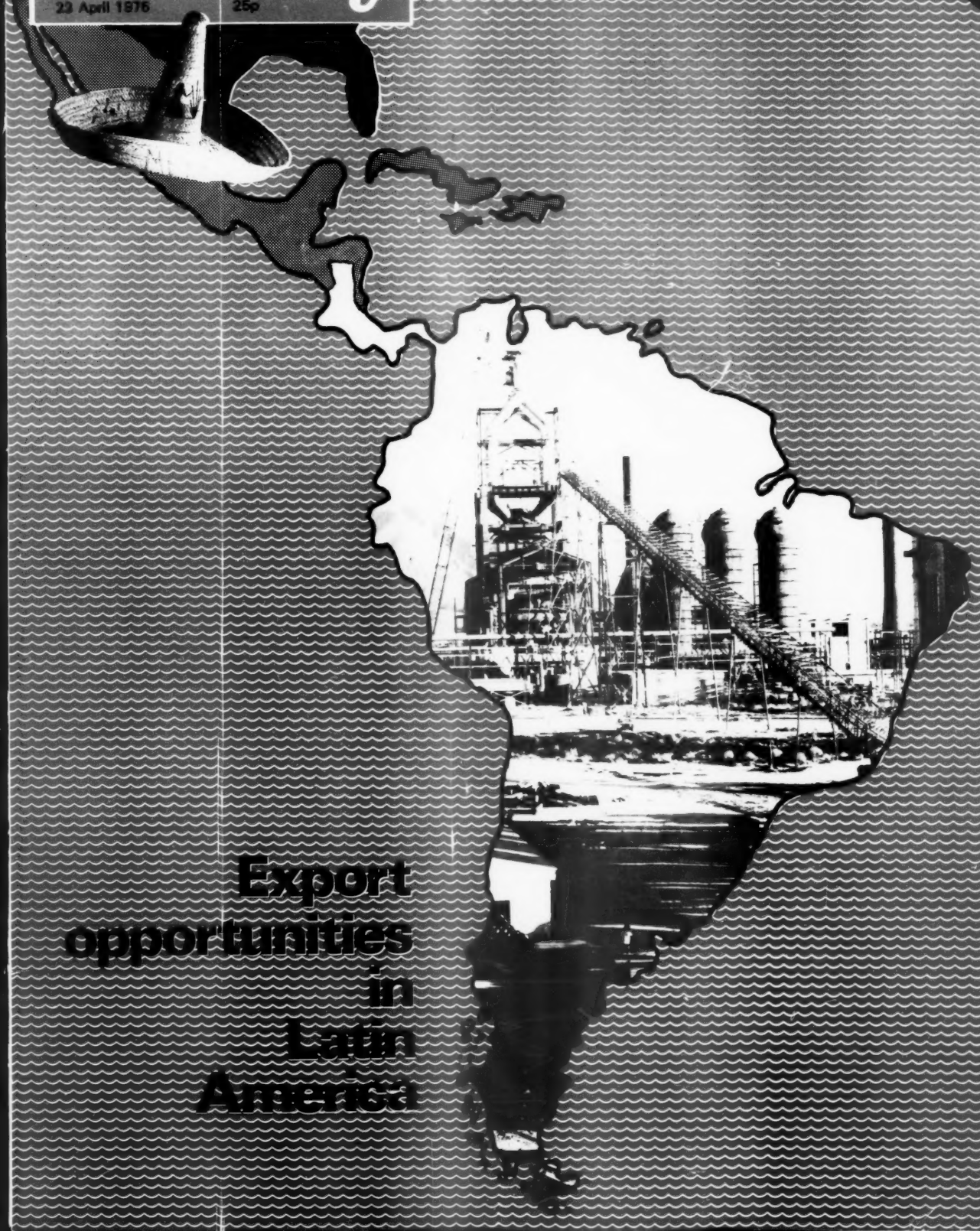
Trade and Industry

23 April 1976 25p

guide to the ecgd



Export opportunities in Latin America

contact points

Firms wishing to put inquiries to the Departments of Industry and Trade will find contact with the nearest Regional Office most convenient. Telephone numbers are:

Northern Region, Newcastle upon Tyne	**0632 27575**
North West Region, Manchester	**061-236 2171**
Yorkshire and Humberside Region, Leeds	**0532 443171**
East Midlands Region, Nottingham	**0602 46121**
West Midlands Region, Birmingham	**021-632 4111**
South West Region, Bristol	**0272 291071**
Eastern Region, London	**01-603 2070**
London and South Eastern Region	**01-603 2060**

Departmental Buildings in London

1 Victoria Street, SW1H 0ET **Monsanto House, Victoria Street, SW1H 0NQ**	**01-215 7877**
Abell House, John Islip Street, SW1P 4LN **Millbank Tower, Millbank, SW1P 4QU** **Thames House South, Millbank, SW1P 4QJ**	**01-211 3000**
Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, SW1P 2AG	**01-212 7676**
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, EC4M 7HU **Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, EC4M 7HU**	**01-248 5757**
Sunley House, 90-93 High Holborn, WC1V 6LP	**01-405 6911**
Waterloo Bridge House, Waterloo Road, SE1 8UA	**01-275 3000**
Cleland House, Page Street, SW1P 4LW	**01-222 8020**

In Scotland

Contact **The Scottish Economic Planning Department, Industrial Development Division, 314 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G3 8XF**	**041-248 2855**

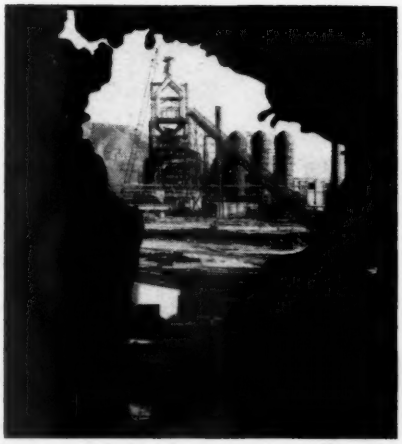
In Wales

Contact **The Welsh Office, Industry Department, Block 2, Gabalfa, Cardiff CF4 4YL**	**0222 62131**

Trade and Industry

23 April 1976

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection



Our analysis of medium-term prospects for trade in Latin America deals with opportunities in some of the fast-developing areas. The photo on the cover shows work in progress on a £50 million steelworks extension in Mexico: the contract was won by by Davy Ashmore International Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees, one of this year's winners of a Queen's Award for Export Achievement.

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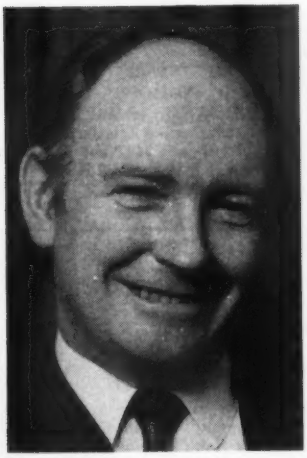
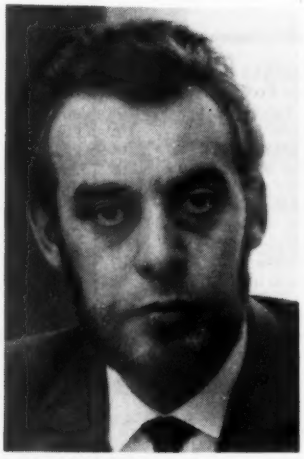
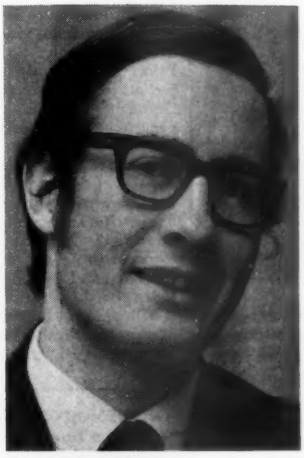
More new Government appointments



Alan Williams



Leslie Huckfield



Michael Meacher

John Fraser

James Callaghan, the Prime Minister announced further changes to the Government on 14 April. Among the new appointments are:

Department of Industry

Alan Williams (formerly Minister of State, Department of Prices and Consumer Protection) becomes Minister of State in succession to Gregor Mackenzie, who now becomes Minister of State, Scottish Office.

Leslie Huckfield becomes Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in succession to Neil Carmichael, who has resigned.

Department of Trade

Michael Meacher becomes Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in succession to Eric Deakins, who takes over Mr. Meacher's former post of Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health and Social Security.

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

John Fraser (formerly Under-Secretary of State, Department of Employment) becomes Minister of State in succession to Alan Williams (see above).

Planning agreements – Eric Varley announces names of first companies

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, announced in Parliament on 13 April the names of the first group of companies which have agreed to enter into detailed discussions with the Government with a view to concluding Planning Agreements.

In answer to a question from Jeff Rooker (Birmingham-Perry Barr) Mr. Varley said:

'Following exploratory talks with companies in a number of industrial sectors, I have invited four companies, Babcock and Wilcox, Clarke Chapman, Head Wrightson and Whessoe to move now to operative discussions about the terms of Planning Agreements in relation to their process plant fabricating interests, and two companies, GEC and Reyrolle Parsons, in relation to their turbo-generator interests. These six companies have agreed to continue discussions on this basis. In addition, as has already been announced, there will be Planning Agreements with British Leyland and Chrysler United Kingdom. Exploratory talks with companies in other sectors are still proceeding'.

Notes

This announcement follows the statement by Mr. Varley, on 8 April, during the Budget debate, reaffirming the Government's commitment to the concept of Planning Agreements and his personal conviction that the successful development of this programme can contribute to deeper and more understanding and more fruitful relationships between major industrial companies and the Government, to the benefit of both.

The Planning Agreement system is to be based upon a series of consultations between the Government and individual companies, leading to agreement, about strategic plans. The consultations will take place annually but the resulting Planning Agreements will not be agreements in the sense of a civil contract enforceable by law; rather they will represent a statement of the firm intentions of both sides. The Planning Agreement relationship between the Government and a company will be wholly voluntary, based on consent.

As Mr. Varley said during the Budget debate, a company's workers will be involved through their unions, the firm intention being that workers' representatives should have the opportunity to discuss the kind of matters likely to be covered by Planning Agreements. The precise arrangements for such discus-

sions with the workers will vary from company to company and can properly take account of whatever is the established practice of the company.

More details of the Planning Agreement system can be found in the White Paper 'The Regeneration of British Industry' Cmnd. 5710, August 1974 and the Discussion Document 'The Contents of a Planning Agreement', published by the Department of Industry in 1975. (See *Trade and Industry*, 8 August 1975, page 337).

Finance Bill representations

The Government wish to ensure that, following publication of the Finance Bill on 15 April, industry, commerce and the professions should be given an opportunity to comment on the details of the proposed legislation.

Interested parties are invited to express their views either through their professional associations and representative bodies or direct on technical and practical provisions of the Bill with which they are particularly concerned. It is emphasised that representations are not now being invited on the principles of the proposals in the Bill, as these were considered fully by the Chancellor of the Exchequer when forming his Budget and will of course be discussed in Parliament.

In order to ensure full consideration of representations before the Finance Bill is considered in Committee by the House of Commons, interested parties are requested to send in their comments no later than 10 May.

All representations of the kind requested will receive detailed consideration by the Treasury and Revenue departments. Comments should be addressed in the first instance to: Robert Sheldon MP, Financial Secretary Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, London SW1P 3AG.

Development from dereliction

Two pilot schemes for the use of derelict sites on Merseyside for industrial development were announced recently.

In the first, the British Rail Property Board and Merseyside County Council have joined forces for the first time in a venture to utilise a derelict industrial site in an inner area. The 24,281.4m² site, formerly the Sandon Dock railway goods yard just over a mile north of Liverpool city centre, is being developed with all roads and services to provide individual plots suitable for approval industrial development.

The estate is located in an area mainly devoted to industry and warehousing, between Regent Road and Derby Road, immediately adjoining the North Docks complex and near Seaforth Dock.

Two acres earmarked for advance factories, in units of 232.25m² are to be provided by the Department of Industry and these will be available by autumn 1976. The remaining four acres will be devoted to development plots for purpose-built factories and consideration will be given to the construction of further units for occupation by suitable firms.

The second scheme, operated by the Wirral Borough Council, involves the provision of 16 terraced units at Russell Road, Birkenhead. These units, totalling 7,060.4m² and varying in size from 306.6m² to 613.13m² are being provided by the Department of Industry and will be the first example in the North West of Government advance factories in a typical 'inner area' site, as opposed to the usual development on the edge of urban areas; it is expected that all will be available by the end of 1976.

Merseyside is a Special Development Area and substantial grants are offered by the Government towards the costs which industrialists incur in creating new jobs in the area.

Industry and the Highlands

An exhibition at the Design Centre, London, about industrial development in the Highland Region of Scotland is to be opened by Lord Kearton, Chairman of the British National Oil Corporation.

The exhibition is from 28 April to 6 May. The aim is to show that the newly arrived heavy industry development is not taking place at the expense of the more traditional craft and tourist industries. Many engineering and construction companies now associated with the area will be contributing material and finance.

Over £6 million assistance approved for ferrous foundries

Grants totalling £6.3 million to the ferrous foundry industry have now been approved by the Department of Industry following recommendations by the Department's Advisory Committee on the Ferrous Foundry Industry Scheme meeting on 14 April. Pictured at the meeting are (centre), the chairman, Mr. G. W. Barlow (chairman and chief executive, Ransome Hoffman and Pollard Ltd., and a member of the Department of Industry's Industrial Development Advisory Board), and (left to right) Mr. T. S. Kilpatrick (adviser to the Department), Mr. G. C. Kennedy (director (Supply and Quality), Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd.), Mr. A. J. Gray (secretary), Mr. W. G. K. Carter (partner, Price Waterhouse and Co., chartered accountants), Mr. R. Garland (general secretary, AUEW Foundry Section and a member of the Ferrous Foundries Economic Development Committee) and Mr. R. C. Whalley (managing director, Sulzer Bros. (UK) Ltd.). Other members of the Committee, who were unable to attend the meeting, are Mr. K. G. Corfield (managing director, Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd., and chairman of the Ferrous Foundries Economic Development Committee), Mr. J. A. Howard (director, Howard Machinery Ltd.) and Mr. W. J. Simpson (chairman, Health and Safety Commission and former general secretary AUEW Foundry Section). The grants are being provided under the £40 million scheme set up under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 to encourage and assist the modernisation and development of the ferrous foundry industry. Nearly 150 applications for assistance have been received since the scheme was announced on 5 August and the Department expects to receive many more before the closing date of 31 December 1976.

The Queen's Awards for Export and Technology 1976

Separate Queen's Awards are made for the first time this year for Export Achievement and for Technological Achievement.

A total of 115 Awards is announced – 95 for Export Achievement and 20 for Technological Achievement. The recipients represent a wide spread of industrial and commercial activity and size of company. Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and all regions of England are represented.

Criteria

The Queen's Award for Export Achievement: 'A substantial and sustained increase in export earnings to a level which is outstanding for the products or services concerned and for the size of the applicant unit's operations. Account will be taken of any special market factors described in the application. Applicants for the Award will be expected to explain the basis of the achievement (eg improved marketing organisation or new initiative to cater for export markets) and this will be taken into consideration. Export earnings considered will include receipts by the applicant unit in this country from the export of goods produced in this country, and the provision of services to non-residents. Account will be taken of the overseas expenses incurred other than marketing expenses. Income from profits (after overseas tax) remitted to this country from the applicant unit's direct investments in its overseas branches, subsidiaries or associates in the same general line of business will be taken into account, but not receipts from profits on other overseas investments or by interest on overseas loans or credits.'

The Queen's Award for Technological Achievement: 'A significant advance, leading to increased efficiency, in the application of technology to a production or development process in British industry or the production for sale of goods which incorporate new and advanced technological qualities.'

The Queen's Awards for Export and Technology differ from personal honours, in that they are given to the industrial unit as a whole – management and employees working as a team. Units holding an Award are entitled to fly the appropriate Award flag and to display the Emblem on their letterheadings, in advertising, on the packaging of goods produced in this country, on the goods themselves, and on articles used by employees such as lapel badges, neck-ties, cuff-links and brooches.

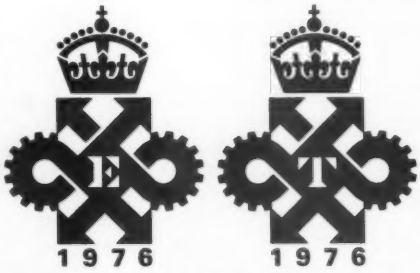
Currency of awards and repeat awards

An award is held for a period of five years – thus the Awards made on 21 April 1971 expire on 20 April 1976. A holder of an Award can apply for consideration in subsequent years and receive a further Award in respect of new outstanding achievement beyond that recognised by the previous Award. This year 35 Awards for Export Achievement and five Awards for Technological Achievement are made to units holding current Awards granted in previous years.

The Awards are formally conferred by a Grant of Appointment, and are symbolised by a representation of the appropriate Emblem cast in stainless steel and encapsulated in a transparent acrylic block. Presentations will be made on behalf of The Queen by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenants during the coming months.

Reception at Buckingham Palace

A most welcome innovation this year has been the decision by Her Majesty the Queen to give an annual Reception at Buckingham Palace to which three representatives of each firm will be invited, as an additional way of marking the achievement of winners of The Queen's Awards. The Reception for the 1976 winners will probably take place towards the end of the year. The two Receptions given in February and March for holders of The Queen's Award to Industry were very successful occasions.



The Queen's Award for Export Achievement, 1976

Acrow Ltd.
The Angus Fire Armour Division of George Angus and Co. Ltd.
Aquascutum and Associated Companies Ltd.
Associated British Maltsters Ltd.
The Associated Octel Co. Ltd.
Avery Export Ltd.
BOC Ltd.
Barbour Threads Ltd.
Barr and Murphy Ltd.
The Bemrose Transfer Prints Division of Bemrose Spondon Ltd.
Bibby Line Ltd.
British Aircraft Corporation Ltd.
British Engine, Boiler and Electrical Insurance Co. Ltd.
E. Brown (Leathers) Ltd.
Brush Switchgears Ltd.
James Burn Bindings Ltd.
James Burrough Ltd.
Cambridge Analysing Instruments Ltd.
Caterpillar Tractor Co. Ltd.
Chivas Brothers Ltd.
Contractors Plant (London and Midland) Ltd.
Cook Bolinders Ltd.
Costain International Ltd.
Courtaulds Ltd.
Crosfield Electronics Ltd.
The Darlington Division of Cummins Engine Co. Ltd.
Davy Ashmore International Ltd.
Decca Ltd.
C. H. Dexter Ltd.
Druce and Co. Ltd.
The Oil and Marine Division of Dunlop Ltd.
EMI Medical Ltd.
Engineering Laboratory Equipment Ltd.
The Military Products Division of Fairey Engineering Ltd.
S. W. Farmer and Son Ltd.
The Fertilizer Division of Fisons Ltd.
Ford Motor Co. Ltd.
Gestetner Holdings Ltd.
A. Grantham Ltd.
Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds Ltd.
Guinness Peat Group Ltd.
Sir William Halcrow and Partners
Harris-Intertype Ltd.
T. S. Harrison and Sons Ltd.
Henley Forklift Group Ltd.
Hield Brothers Ltd.
R. G. Holland and Co. Ltd.
Howard Rotavator Co. Ltd.
The Plant Protection Division of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.
Inductotherm Europe Ltd.
International Computers Ltd.
Dick James Music Ltd.
Johnston Brothers (Engineering) Ltd.
Lancer Boss Group Ltd.
P. Leiner and Sons (Encapsulations) Ltd.
Linsday and Williams Industries Ltd.
R. A. Lister and Co. Ltd.
Sir M. MacDonald and Partners
Manchester Liners Ltd.
Martin-Black Ltd.
The Mercantile and General Reinsurance Co. Ltd.
The Royal Ordnance Factories of the Ministry of Defence
The Monotype Corporation Ltd.
Munton and Fison Ltd.
The Manufacturing Division of NCR Ltd.
Newell Dunford Engineering Ltd.
PMC (Sheffield) Ltd.

Pauling and Co. Ltd.
Penlon Ltd.
Petbow Ltd.
Edgar Pickering (Blackburn) Ltd.
Victor Pyrate Ltd.
Racal Communications Ltd.
Racal-Mobical Ltd.
John Ratcliff and Sons Ltd.
Charles Richards Fasteners Ltd.
The Ryvita Co. Ltd.
Saunders Valve Co. Ltd.
The Serck Tubes Division of Serck Industries Ltd.
Silverline Caravan Co. Ltd.
600 Services Ltd.
David Skellon Yachts Ltd.
The Aviation Division of Smiths Industries Ltd.
Standard Chartered Bank Ltd.
The Large Cylinder Division of TI Chesterfield Ltd.
TI Desford Tubes Ltd.
International Division of Thorn Lighting Ltd.
The International Trade Finance Division of Tozer, Kemsley and Milbourn (Holdings) Ltd.
Transprints (UK) Ltd.
Viking Engineering Co. Ltd.
Viking Marine Co. Ltd.
Vogt and Maguire Ltd.
John Walker and Sons Ltd.
Josiah Wedgwood and Sons Ltd.
The Wellcome Foundation Ltd.

The Queen's Award for Technological Achievement, 1976

The APV Co. Ltd.
Chas A. Blatchford and Sons Ltd.
The Guided Weapons Division of British Aircraft Corporation Ltd.
The Forties Project Team of British Petroleum Co. Ltd.
Central Research Laboratories of EMI Ltd.
Ekco Instruments Ltd.
Ford Motor Co. Ltd.
Froude Engineering Ltd.
The Hatfield Unit of Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd.
Instron Ltd.
Marconi Communication Systems Ltd.
Tobacco Machinery Division of Molins Ltd.
The Optoelectronics and Microwave Unit of the Microsystems Division of The Plessey Co. Ltd.
Rothamsted Experimental Station
The Pump Division of William R. Selwood Ltd.
The Missile Systems Division of Short Brothers and Harland Ltd.
John Thurley Ltd.
Victor Products (Wallsend) Ltd.
Welsh Plant Breeding Station
Wilson and Longbottom Ltd.

Price Commission interventions during March

During March the Price Commission rejected 18 notifications of price increases from manufacturing and service companies in Categories I and II. In another 19 cases the companies concerned withdrew their notifications of intended increases and in 55 cases the extent of the increases was reduced by the Commission.

Since the beginning of Stage 4 on 20 December 1974, the Commission have rejected a total of 213 notifications and modified 1,029. 340 notifications were withdrawn.

During March, following discussions with the Price Commission, nine distributors in Category II agreed to make price reductions amounting to £1 million in order to eliminate excess gross or net profits as revealed in their periodic returns.

Following inspection of records kept by enterprises in Category III, the Commission's Regional Offices secured the agreement of 134 distributors, 33 manufacturers, 26 service enterprises, four professional enterprises and one construction enterprise to make price reductions amounting to £4.64 million in order to eliminate excess gross or net profits. In addition, the Regional Offices secured a total of 53 individual voluntary price reductions following investigation of complaints about price increases.

Note

The Price Commission may intervene to reject or modify notifications submitted by Category I and II enterprises at any time during or after the 28 day period which must elapse before the increase can be implemented. Announcements about price increases where the Price Commission has not intervened are the responsibility of the company imposing the increase.

Rejections

Company	Product	% increase sought
Category I		
Chloride Lorival Ltd.	Plastic and rubber components	9.30
Hotpoint Ltd.	Service charges and Owners' Club premiums	1.26
ICI Ltd.	Intermediate chemicals relevant to dye stuffs and pigments manufacture	16.21
The Lace Web Spring Co. Ltd.	Spring interiors	1.68
John Rigby (Steel) Ltd.	Steel products	18.34
Rolls Royce (1971) Ltd.	Hourly rate charged for service engineers	15.70
Wickman Machine Tool Manufacturing Co. Ltd.	Multi-spindle automatic lathes	30.00
Category II		
Bevaloid Ltd.	Textile size and defoaming agents	7.24
Elson and Robbins Ltd.	Plasticisers	7.11
Hardy Brothers (Alnwick) Ltd.	Fishing rods, reels, tackles	10.00
	Fibre glass blanks	11.63
C. A. E. C. Howard Ltd.	Lightweight concrete building blocks	13.23
Myson Fans Ltd.	Axial flow fans	19.70
Robinson Willey Ltd.	Gas fires and associated spare parts	5.00
Scott Bader Co. Ltd.	Polyester resins	4.24
Silcock and Colling Ltd.	Car delivery charges	9.34
Start-Rite Shoes Ltd.	Shoes	10.00
F. W. Talbot and Co. Ltd.	Iron fittings	45.15
J. C. Thomson and Co. (Duron) Ltd.	Textile lubricants	6.86

Withdrawals

Company	Product	% increase sought
Category I		
Advance Textile Mills Ltd.	Nylon yarn	9.32
Beecham Agricultural Products Ltd.	Animal feedingstuffs	13.50
Ciba-Geigy (UK) Ltd.	Phenolic resins	2.60
Colman Foods Ltd.	Soft drinks	2.62
Glynwed Bathroom and Kitchen Products Ltd.	Cast iron sanitary ware	6.67
Category II		
Air Products Ltd.	Industrial gases for merchant market	3.15
Britax Ltd.	Children's car safety seats	6.10
Brook Dyeing Co. Ltd.	Woollen and worsted cloth	14.00
Brook Dyeing Co. Ltd.	Woollen yarn	5.50
Cole Polymers Ltd.	All products	7.25
Dowty Hydraulic Units Ltd.	Hydraulic equipment 'Vardis':	15.00
Gillette Industries Ltd.	Writing instruments	5.14
Hy-Mac Ltd.	All-hydraulic 360° and 180° excavators and related spare parts	3.79
3M United Kingdom Ltd.	Safety switch mat systems	3.68
Metlex Industries Ltd.	Bathroom fittings and equipment	0.49
Moulded Plastics (Birmingham) Ltd.	ABS based products	10.06
John Pring and Son Ltd.	CO_2 welding wire and mild steel wire	7.45
Spence Bryson and Co. Ltd.	Linen cambric for mens' handkerchiefs	14.50
	Ladies' boxed handkerchiefs	14.30
West Midland Passenger Transport Executive	Private hire charge	74.49

Modifications

Company	Product	% increase sought	% reduction made (percentage points)
Category I			
Allied Mills Holdings Ltd.	Bakers' bread flours	2.80	0.37
Beaverbrook Newspapers Ltd.	Display and advertising rates in 'Falmouth Packet' and 'Mid-Devon Advertiser'	12.41	5.46
Chloride Alcad Ltd.	Industrial rechargeable alkaline batteries	7.80	1.24
ICI Ltd.	Diphenylmethane diisocyanate (MDI)	18.64	1.25
Initial Service Cleaners Ltd.	Contract cleaning	2.00	0.02
Johnson and Nephew (Non-ferrous) Ltd.	Conversion charges for copper rods, wire strips and strand	£7.08 per tonne	£0.97 per tonne
Mirror Group Newspapers Ltd.	Cover price and advertising rates	2.64	0.03
Mullard Ltd.	Development, manufacture and sale of electronic components	15.56	5.49
New World Gas Heating Ltd.	Gas fires and related parts	5.17	0.01
New World Gas Spares Ltd.	Instantaneous water heaters and circulators	5.49	0.18
North of England Newspapers Divn. of Westminster Press Ltd.	Cover price of 'Northern Echo' and advertising rates of 'Evening Despatch' and 'Darlington and Stockton Times'	7.29	3.50
Perry Barr Metal Co. Ltd.	Aluminium gravity die-castings	3.33	0.27
	Machining of aluminium castings	6.28	0.15
Pretty Polly Ltd.	Ladies' and girls' tights and stockings	6.60	0.56
Rubery Owen Conveyancer Ltd.	Fork trucks	5.42	0.22
Spillers Food Ltd.	Canned domestic foods	6.34	0.05
Category II			
Addressograph-Multigraph Ltd.	Office machinery and associated parts and supplies	5.38	0.31
Aero Zipp Division of Textron Ltd.	Zippers, adjustables and narrow fabrics	14.93	6.59
AMF International Ltd.	Time switches, parking meters, timers and electrical relays	39.93	19.93
APV Osborne Craig Ltd.	Pumps and mixing equipment	12.35	4.35
Bovril Ltd.	Ambrosia and private label milk puddings	7.51	0.16
British Tissues Ltd.	Tissue paper products	6.05	0.06
Bulpitt and Sons Ltd.	Domestic electrical appliances 'Holloware' teasets, rotating electrical machinery, and government contracting	10.04	0.09
Burco Ltd.	Electricaire heaters	3.51	0.27
The Carborundum Co. Ltd.	Bonded products	7.00	1.43
C. M. Churchouse Ltd.	Lighting fittings	10.50	0.10
Clean Tread Services Ltd.	Dust control services	11.00	0.55
Clover Dairies Ltd.	Fresh cream	9.67	0.20
Consolidated Pneumatic Tool Co. Ltd.	Portable pneumatic and electric tools, air compressors, gas compressors, rock drilling and mining construction equipment	4.36	0.10
Diversey Ltd.	Chemicals and equipment	9.50	0.15
Driver Southall Ltd.	Packaging machinery	5.07	0.86
Ever Ready Co. (GB) Ltd.	Dry primary batteries and flashlight cases	2.15	0.99
Ever Ready Co. (GB) Ltd. and Mandaw Products Ltd.	Dry primary batteries and flashlight cases	11.25	1.16
Gillette Industries Ltd.	Disposable plastic bags and wrappers	8.85	1.62
Haffenden-Richborough Ltd.	Rubber and brass based electrical plugs and accessories	13.33	10.54
Hale and Hale (Tipton) Ltd.	Malleable iron castings	6.53	0.39
P. C. Henderson Ltd.	Industrial doors	5.42	0.31
Holset Engineering Co. Ltd.	Torsional vibration dampers, couplings, turbo chargers, fan drives, rubber products and related spares	2.19	0.12
Jonas and Colver (Tools) Ltd.	Standard hard metal tipped tools	10.25	0.11
Lang Pneumatic Division of Sperry Rand Ltd.	Pneumatic valves, cylinders, fittings and accessories	4.00	0.73
Link 51 Ltd.	Slotted angle products, steel and storage equipment	11.97	0.11
Linton and Hurst Ltd.	Laminations	15.39	0.04
3M (United Kingdom) Ltd.	Professional audio tape	15.05	0.08
	Filmic tapes	3.88	0.01
	Paper tapes	4.11	0.05
	Autoclave tapes	13.95	2.32
Marbourn Ltd.	Plugs, sockets, adaptors, fuses, switches, lamp holders, etc.	11.60	0.28
James North and Sons Ltd.	PVC gloves	6.80	0.50
Nuodex Ltd.	Nuodex driers	8.08	0.11
W. J. Oldacre Ltd.	Animal feeds and protein concentrates	1.92	0.07
RCA Ltd.	Phonograph records and recorded tape	2.47	0.33
Scott Bader Co. Ltd.	Polyester resin compounds	1.26	0.01
Scottish Universal Newspapers Ltd.	Cover prices and advertising rates for local newspapers	5.08	0.11
Smarts Laundries (South Wales) Ltd.	Commercial laundering and linen hire	8.23	1.60
Steeles Carpets Ltd.	Wilton and tufted carpets	18.30	3.34
Triplex Foundries Ltd.	Grey iron castings	6.10	0.49
Yorkshire Chemicals Ltd.	Chrome tan liquor	7.45	0.01
	Synthetic tanning chemicals, metal treatment chemicals and textile auxiliary products	6.67	0.01

Prices policy review

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, is now reviewing the price controls, which are at present applied through the Price Code, and is very willing to receive representations from interested organisations about possible changes.

In his Budget Statement on 6 April, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said:

'I recognise that decisions on the future of price control will also be of crucial importance to business confidence and investment. As the House knows, the present Price Code expires at the end of July, and my Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection will be discussing with both sides of industry how it should be changed. I cannot predict the outcome of those discussions; but I can give an assurance that in reaching decisions the Government will take full account of the needs of industry, and in particular of the need to allow a sufficient recovery of profits to encourage the new investment we need and the new jobs which the investment will bring.' (*Hansard*, 6 April, col. 252.)

In her reply to a Parliamentary Question from Mr. Michael Neubert on 12 April regarding progress with negotiations about the future of the Price Code, the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection said:

'Many organisations have made representations, and I am considering the evidence and views put to me in the framework of the Government's economic objectives. I am very willing to receive views from other interested organisations.' (*Hansard*, 12 April, col. 909, see also page 209 of this issue.)

PRICE CODE: CERTIFICATION OF 'RESTRICTED PRICE PRODUCTS' UNDER THE PRICE CHECK SCHEME

Under the Counter-Inflation (Price Code) (Amendment) Order 1976 (SI 1976 No. 71) paragraphs 137-41 were added to the Price Code to help firms to comply with the Price Check Scheme without adversely affecting their profit margins.

Under the Price Check Scheme certain sectors have voluntarily agreed to limit price increases on an announced range of goods and services to 5 per cent over a six-month period from February 1976. The additional provisions in the Price Code provide that revenue forgone as a result of price restraint on items in the scheme may be recovered by a parallel increase in the prices of other items.

The items from which cross-subsidisation may take place for these purposes have to be defined in certificates issued by the Secretary of State under paragraph 137 of the Price Code (which describes them as 'restricted price products'). The following is a list of the items which have thus been certified. (Be-

cause of the need for more precise definition under the Price Code than in the voluntary Price Check Scheme, the product description is not identical in all cases with the description for the purposes of the scheme itself.)

Certificates issued under paragraph 137 of the Price Code

Each description of the following products and services:

FOOD AND DRINK
14 oz and 28 oz white or brown bread loaves (Great Britain only).
Granulated sugar in 2 lb or 1kg bags.
Quick frozen peas.
Biscuits.
Chocolate and sugar confectionery.
Tea (in packets).
Cornflakes for retail sale and pre-packed by net weight.
Ready-to-eat breakfast cereals in biscuit form for retail sale and pre-packed by number.
Blackcurrant health drinks.
Beer in tank.
Cask beer.
Keg beer.
Beer in returnable bottles.
Beer in non-returnable bottles.
Beer in party cans (4 pints and over).
Beer in other cans.
Other beer.
Sale of beer in public bars.
Sale of beer in saloon bars.
Sale of beer in lounges.
Sale of beer in other bars.
Cider.

CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND TEXTILES
Dresses made of man-made fibre or of cotton or of mixtures thereof and in knitted or woven fabrics.
Blouses made of man-made fibre or of cotton or of mixtures thereof and in knitted or woven fabrics.
Men's and boys' ready-to-wear jackets, blazers, trousers and lounge and casual suits, including schoolwear other than autumn ranges.
Infants' and children's woven dresses, trousers, blazers, romper suits and coats, including schoolwear other than autumn ranges.
Men's nylon and plain (white or colour) polyester/cotton shirts.
Women's and girls' tailored coats, suits and ensembles, jackets and blazers, skirts and slacks, in woven and knitted fabrics, including schoolwear other than autumn ranges.
Woven curtain material of cotton or man-made fibres and mixtures thereof, woven rayon dress material and woven cotton winceyette/flannellette (fabrics for sale at retail for home sewing).
Cotton sheets wider than 200cm, tablecloths, and terry towels larger than 50cm × 100cm.

FURNITURE
Domestic furniture.

TOILETRIES
Proprietary analgesics.
Proprietary indigestion remedies.
Proprietary cough and cold remedies.
Razor and blade packs.
Household soap.
Toilet soap for sale in sizes not exceeding 4½ oz by bar.
Toothpaste.
Shaving stick refill.
Lipsticks.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES
Domestic electrical appliances.
Domestic sewing machines.
60 watt coiled coil GLS lamps fitted with BC cap in pearl, clear or white finishes.

FUEL
Domestic heating oil (burning oil, gas oil and paraffin).
Motor spirit.

DO-IT-YOURSELF
Electric power drills and attachments.
Digging forks (other than stainless steel).
Garden trowels (other than stainless steel).
Household hatchets.
Household shovels.
Household claw hammers (below 16 oz).
Flared tip screw drivers.
2m flexible rules.
¼in chuck hand drills.
Junior wire frame hacksaws and blades.
Hand saws.
Standard ranges of wall and ceiling papers, printed and plain (but not paper backed vinyls) on offer before 31 July 1976 for consumers purchase.
Paint (decorative and varnishes for sale through retail to consumers).

TOBACCO
Cigarettes and tobacco (pipe and hand rolling).

OUT OF DOORS AND LEISURE
Electric lawnmowers and hedge trimmers.
Cameras (where the manufacturers' selling price is less than £15).
Amateur film (sensitised photographic film for sale through retail outlets in the following sizes:
Still film – 828, 127, 120, 620, 110, 126, 135; refills for 135 cassettes; Polaroid instant developing film – sizes 20, 80, 100;
Moviefilm – double 8mm, super 8mm).
Long-playing records.
Batteries for starting, lighting and instrumentation for cars and motorcycles.
Perambulators and pushchairs.
Toys and games.
Pedal cycles.

OTHER GOODS
Baking cases.
Shelf rolls.
Table covers (paper).
The following stationery items for retail sale.
Personal stationery paper
Household books
Albums
Fountain pen ink
Fountain pens
Felt and fibre tip pens (excluding markers 3mm and over intended for commercial use)
Propelling pencils
Ball point pens
Pencils, crayons, chalk
Greeting cards and pictorial post cards
Matches.
Heat-resistant glass ovenware.
Weekly magazines of which the cover price is not more than 15p and monthly magazines.
Scottish weekly newspapers.
Books.

SERVICES
Cinema admissions for children's matinees.
Concessionary cinema admissions for pensioners.
Laundering and dry cleaning of children's clothes.

Grants in aid for National Federation of Consumer Groups

A grant in aid of £4,000 is to be made to the National Federation of Consumer Groups, said Alan Williams, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, on 13 April.

Replying to a parliamentary question, from Ioan Evans (Aberdare), Mr. Williams said:

'I have decided, subject to Parliamentary approval of the necessary Supplementary Estimate, to make in 1976/77 a grant in aid of £4,000 to the National Federation of Consumer Groups, to support their work in connection with the formation of new local consumer groups and also to assist with their general administrative expenses.'

The National Federation of Consumer Groups is the national body for local consumer groups, and has at present about 50 groups affiliated to it. It represents at national level the views of consumers who are active in consumer groups. Its functions include:

the promotion of campaigns and co-ordination of local efforts to further consumers' interests;

the promotion of the formation of new groups;

making representations to the Government in connection with new and proposed legislation;

the provision of information and advice for groups.

The Federation is principally financed by the subscriptions of member groups and associates, and by a grant from Consumers' Association. Its budget for 1976/77, including the new DPCP grant, is about £11,000. It has not previously received a grant from the Government.

Clearance of merger proposals

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has decided, on the information at present before her not to refer the following proposed merger to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973:

Thorn Electrical Industries Ltd. and Stanwood Radio Ltd.

This cropping and piercing unit, based on eight Schrader 3.5 tonne pneumatic impact presses, has enabled Trox Brothers Ltd., Thetford, Norfolk to double production of aluminium components for air conditioning grilles. Trox Brothers built the unit to meet increasing demand for grilles – particularly from overseas markets. By using impact presses – built by Schrader Pneumatics, Cannock, Staffs, and supplied off-the-shelf from the local stockist – Trox Brothers designed and built the unit in two and a half months. And this, with the expertise of only one skilled tool maker, works engineer, Brian Smart, who with other duties could work only part-time on the project, with the help of his apprentice.

Seventh report of Metrication Board

The metric changes in Britain should be completed as soon as practicable. This is the main conclusion of the Metrication Board's Report for 1975. Four main factors are underlined:

Britain is now unequivocably a full partner in Europe. This makes it the more desirable that the metric change should be completed quickly. Membership, carries with it an obligation to adopt the metric system.

The United States Metric Conversion Act was signed by President Ford. The Act authorises the establishment of a United States Metric Board and gives the backing of the American Administration and Congress to the decision to go metric, already taken by a wide range of important American companies.

Consumer organisations continued to press, in the interests of their members, for a speedy conclusion of the period of transition.

Discussions with retailers and retail organisations indicate that the setting of an 'M' day for each sector of the retail trade, ending the use of imperial units of measurement, is indispensable if the trade is to go metric in an orderly fashion.

The Board's recommendations are:

1 The Government should clearly state and make widely known the need to complete the metrication programme quickly;

2 The Government should seek early amendment of the Weights and Measures Acts and should begin consultations directed to the setting of terminal dates for the use of imperial measures in retail trade;

3 Parliamentary approval should be sought at an early date for further Orders to allow the remaining groups of prescribed quantity goods to be sold in metric packs; and for the setting of definite cut-off dates for imperial packs.

4 The public and private sectors of the economy should review their production, trading, purchasing and other operations to ensure that the transition to the use of metric measures is completed as quickly as practicable;

5 The Department of the Environment should immediately prepare and announce a metrication programme in respect of road speed limits and distance signs;

6 The Department of Energy should announce its approval of the fuel and power industry's agreed metrication programme and indicate the Government's intention to introduce the legislative changes required.

'Going Metric – Progress in 1975', the report of the Metrication Board for 1975, is available from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6HB, and from branches and booksellers throughout the country. Reference number ISBN 0 11 700310 7. Price £1.35 net.

Public debate on transport launched

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, has launched a lengthy public consultation exercise with over 100 organisations to determine the Government's future policy on transport.

Between now and July, Mr. Shore and his ministerial colleagues are inviting all those who operate, work in or use the transport system to give their views on the priorities and questions raised in a two-volume publication* on transport policy published on 13 April.

In a statement to the House of Commons on 13 April, Mr. Shore said that he was not announcing conclusions. The Government had re-examined the objectives of transport policy, with no bias in favour of road or rail, together with the facts and costs of transport so that future policy options could be discussed with those concerned with transport.

In dealing with the public expenditure constraints the consultation document makes it clear that there will be little or no scope for increasing the total amount of planned expenditure over the next few years, but the Government may wish after the process of consultation to make changes in the distribution of the overall total.

On passenger subsidies the document says: 'We cannot afford to subsidise public transport indiscriminately – these subsidies tend to benefit the better-off more than the poor. But selective subsidies are essential if there is to be an adequate level of local public transport for those without access to a car.'

The document argues for an 'even-handed and balanced approach' to all aspects of transport.

The Government now propose to discuss with those concerned the formation of a National Transport Council which would become a national focus for monitoring developments on a regular basis and for examining critically the pricing and investment strategy across the whole field of transport.

In detailing possible areas of work for the council, the consultation document explains that the Government's proposals envisage a minister as chairman with members representing public and private transport indus-

* Transport Policy: A Consultation Document, Volume 1, HMSO. £1.35. Transport Policy: A Consultation Document, Volume 2, HMSO. £1.70.

tries, management and trade unions, local government and consumers.

The Department of the Environment will be formally consulting the recognised organisations representing operators and users of transport systems, as well as environmental bodies. Individual members of the public are also invited to express their views on the Transport Policy documents. Comments from other bodies and from members of the public should be sent to the Secretary, Department of the Environment, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1.

Air travel organisers' financial results

An analysis by the Civil Aviation Authority of the 1975 results of its 30 largest Air Travel Organisers' Licence holders shows that 1975 was a better year for travel organisers than had been expected. In 1973 and 1974 for example, the 30 largest licence holders collectively showed losses of 0.2 per cent and 1.3 per cent, respectively, of their turnover, and the latter figure excludes the losses made by companies of the Court Line group in 1974. By contrast, the 30 largest organisers in 1975 showed a profit of 4.6 per cent on turnover taken as a whole.

£ million

Year	Turnover	Profits	(Losses)	Net results	Net results as % of turnover
1972	206.0	1.9	(10.8)	(8.9)	(4.3)
1973	245.5	2.5	(2.9)	(0.4)	(0.2)
1974	226.7	1.8	(4.8)	(3.0)	(1.3)
1975	278.3	13.7	(0.8)	12.9	4.6

The totals have been drawn up from a list of 30 which excludes a small number of travel organisers whose licensable turnover is a small fraction of their total turnover. Inclusion of these organisers would distort the figures.

The list of 30 also excludes a small number of travel organisers whose 1975 results are not yet known to the Authority. Inclusion of these organisers would make little difference to the figures.

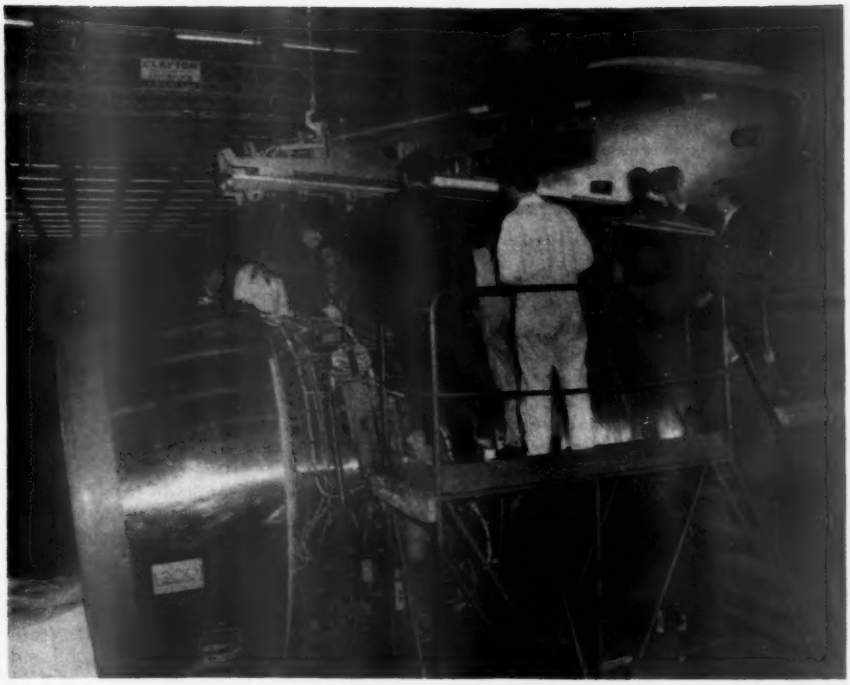
The results for a particular year are totals of the results for accounting periods ending on a date in that year.

Where companies have failed and hence disappeared from the list, the losses incurred by them in the year in which they failed are not shown in the figures.

Domestic trunk and related route fares

The Civil Aviation Authority has approved applications from airlines for increases in domestic trunk and related routes fares from 1 May. The routes affected are those from London and the south coast to Edinburgh, Glasgow, Prestwick and Belfast.

The Authority has decided to continue the experimental Gatwick discount fares and has also approved as an experiment for three months an application from British Airways for a shuttle 'standby' fare at weekends of £14.



The first 50,000 lb thrust Rolls-Royce RB 211-524 engine for the Boeing 747 jumbo jet airliner has been successfully connected to the pylon which attaches it to the aircraft's wing. Wing pylons for RB 211-powered Boeing 747s are made under contract to Boeing by the British Aircraft Corporation at its Weybridge, Surrey, factory. This initial connection of the engine to its wing-mounting pylon was made at the Rolls-Royce plant in Derby to check that there will be no problems at Boeing when engines are attached to the first RB 211-powered 747 for British Airways. The airline has ordered four long-range Boeing 747s with RB 211-524 engines for entry into service next year. The Boeing 747 is the second type of wide-bodied airliner to be powered by RB 211 engines. Lockheed TriStars with RB 211 engines have been in service since 1972. Photo shows the BAC-built pylon being lowered to connect it with the first RB 211-524 flight engine which will be despatched to Boeing.

Improving search facilities at Companies House

The first stage in a programme to improve the search facilities at Companies House, London, will be in operation next Monday, April 26. The first of those company records which have been microfilmed will be available to searchers to read through special viewers.

During the next few weeks, companies numbered from 1,000,000 upwards will be brought progressively into the new system. By early next year, the records of all the 643,000 companies on the Register will be available on microfilm in stages as follows:

Date	London	Cardiff
Mid 1976	1,000,000 upwards	900,000 upwards
Late summer 1976	600,000 upwards	600,000 upwards
Autumn 1976	300,000 upwards	300,000 upwards
Early 1977	Complete	Complete

The actual company files will be moved from London to Cardiff in three batches, the first in July, the next in December and the final one in May next year.

For a time after each block of files goes on microfilm, the files will stay in London as a back-up to the new system, until it is clear that the system works perfectly.

From Monday the search procedure will be as follows:

1 The searcher finds the registered number of the company in which he is interested by using the microfilmed index which has been in use at Companies House since January.

2 He asks to search the file of that company, and on payment of the search fee – currently 5p – is given a search ticket.

3 If the records are available on microfilm, the searcher is given a sheet of film – called a fiche – on which company documents appear as separate frames reduced to one twenty-fourth full size. Once this fiche is handed over, it becomes the property of the searcher, to read either through the equipment provided at Companies House, or to take away to read through his own viewer.

4 If the records are not yet available on microfilm, the searcher will be given the actual file.

Other reading rooms at the London office will be opened in August and in February next year. Altogether, 322 readers will be installed, chosen in the light of preferences expressed by users who examined a range of prototypes in 1974, and whose comments have been reflected in the final designs.

Consent to newspaper merger

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has given her consent, under Section 58(4) of the Fair Trading Act 1973, to the acquisition by BPM Holdings Ltd. (BPM) of 1,023 ordinary shares (amounting to 1 per cent of the equity) in North Wales Newspapers Ltd. (NWN). The acquisition will increase BPM's shareholding in NWN to 25.03 per cent, and qualify as a 'transfer of a newspaper or newspaper assets' as defined in Section 57 of the Act.

Notes

Under Section 58(1) of the Act transfer of a newspaper or of newspaper assets to a newspaper proprietor whose newspapers have an average circulation per day of publication amounting, together with that of the newspaper concerned in the transfer, to 500,000 or more copies shall be unlawful and void, unless the transfer is made with written consent given by the Secretary of State. BPM is such a newspaper proprietor.

Except in certain circumstances (see below) the consent of the Secretary of State shall not be given in respect of a transfer until after the Secretary of State has received a report on the matter from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The effect of Section 58(4) of the Act is that the Secretary of State may give her consent to the transfer of a newpaper without requiring a report from the Commission where she is satisfied that the newspaper concerned in the transfer has an average circulation per day of publication of not more than 25,000 copies. All the newspapers comprised within NWN have such circulations.

Advance factories at Penryn and Millom

The English Industrial Estates Corporation has announced that work had started on the construction of three advance factories each of 900m² (10,000 sq. ft) for the Department of Industry on the Kernick Road Industrial Estate, Penryn, Cornwall. The premises should be ready for occupation by November.

The corporation has also announced that another advance factory of 450m² (5,000 sq. ft) is being built for the Development Commission on the Devonshire Road Industrial Estate, Millom, Cumbria. The premises should be ready for occupation by September. There are two similar units each of 450m² currently under construction on the estate.

Coastguard operations in 1975

HM Coastguard, the co-ordinating authority for all civil marine search and rescue, handled nearly 13,000 incidents in 1975. A record number of 7,363 people were rescued (6,760 in 1974). The number of lives lost was 199 (237 in 1974).

Commenting on the year's work the Chief Inspector HM Coastguard, John Douglas, says:

'It has been another very heavy year for the Coastguard Service, as shown by the increase in the numbers of people rescued or assisted.

'There was a small reduction in the number of rescues of recreational sailing and powered craft. This no doubt reflects the exceptionally good weather of last summer, but we cannot rely on such a spell of settled weather to recur this year.

'The long hot summer also led to greater than usual crowds on holiday beaches and cliffs, and they in turn led to an increase of about 11 per cent in the number of cliff and shoreline rescues.'

The main arms of the search and rescue services co-ordinated by HM Coastguard are:

Royal National Lifeboat Institution

Royal Air Force, Royal Navy — Which provide helicopters, fixed wing aircraft and surface vessels.

The coast radio stations of the Post Office which provide the major communication links with shops at sea, commercial vessels and pleasure craft, which respond to calls for assistance.

Coastguards also undertake their own cliff rescues of people and animals using vehicles, cliff climbing equipment and a limited number of general purpose boats.

HM Coastguard statistics 1975

MAJOR INCIDENTS

Commercial vessel	110
Commercial fishing	377
Powered pleasure craft	633
Sailing craft	533
Small craft	132
Inflatable	170
Medical	307
Skin divers	31
Aircraft	9
Cliff rescue	225
Cut off by tide	153
Shore search	183
Distress reports	1,600
Miscellaneous craft	59
Miscellaneous person	106
Total	4,628

INCIDENTS WHICH DID NOT INVOLVE A SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATION

Animal rescues	195
Recovery of dead bodies	160
Warnings off	527
Investigation of flares and lights	2,242
Small craft	4,643
Bathers	442
Total	8,209

It is not possible to offer precise comparisons between all the different categories of rescues in 1975, compared to 1974, as the system of recording incidents has been altered.

Ratification of the hallmarking convention

Articles of gold, silver or platinum, bearing Convention hallmarks applied by assay offices in Austria, Finland, Sweden and Switzerland will no longer be required to be hallmarked by the United Kingdom assay offices from 1 June 1976. This is the result of the UK Government's ratification on 1 April 1976 of the International Convention on the Control and Marking of Articles of Precious Metals. Reciprocal treatment will be given by those countries to articles bearing Convention marks applied by UK assay offices.

The UK will not recognise any standards for silver below the 925 sterling standard for articles circulating in the UK.

An Order giving effect to these provisions will be made under the Hallmarking Act 1973 by the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

Notes

With certain limited exceptions, the Hallmarking Act 1973 makes it an offence for a trader to describe any article as being made of gold, silver or platinum, unless it has been assayed and hallmarked by a UK assay office. Imported articles have therefore to be hallmarked before they can be sold in the UK.

The Convention, which is open to accession by any country having adequate hallmarking arrangements, removes this barrier to trade without lowering standards, by providing for the free circulation of articles assayed and marked to agreed standards by assay offices in any Convention country.

The Hallmarking Act 1973 enables the Secretary of State to make orders designating marks as approved hallmarks for the purposes of the Act when they are applied by assay offices overseas in accordance with an international convention or treaty and authorising UK assay offices to apply such marks.

The Convention does not require Contracting States to accept articles which are below their national minimum standards of fineness. Silver articles of less than the 925 sterling standard, whether or not they bear Convention marks, will not therefore be allowed to circulate freely in the UK.

UK assay offices will be authorised to apply Convention marks to silver articles of 800 and 830 fineness intended for export.

The Convention was signed by the UK and six other countries in November 1972. Our decision to ratify the Convention was announced in May 1975. The Convention came into force between Austria, Finland, Sweden and Switzerland in June 1975.

Moneylenders Acts, 1900 to 1927

Entries in these lists are in alphabetical order according to the first initial letter of the title.

The following companies held orders of exemption valid 31 March 1976 issued under Section 6(e) of the Moneylenders Act, 1900.

A. Booth (Estates) Ltd.
Acre Investment Trust Ltd.
Afforestation Finance Ltd.
Agricultural Central Trading Ltd.
Agricultural Supplies (Cambridge) Ltd.
Airedale Investment Ltd.
Alex Lawrie Factors Ltd.
ANZ Overseas Finance Ltd.
Arbuthnot Factors Ltd.
Audit and General Finance Ltd.
Austin Morris Group Facilities Ltd.

B. S. G. Finance Ltd.
Baldrene Ltd.
Banca Commerciale Italiana Ltd.
Bankers Trust Factors Ltd.
Barclays Export and Finance Co. Ltd.
Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Ltd.
Barcross Finance Ltd.
Beamtenheimstattenwerk Gemeinnutzige Bausparkasse Fur Den Offentlichen Dienst Gesellschaft Mit Beschranker Haftung
Bentworth Trust Ltd.
Blane and Enfield Ltd.
Book Trade Improvement Ltd.
British Maritime Trust Ltd.
British Medical Finance Ltd.
Bucks Land and Building Co. Ltd.
Builders and General Mortgage Co. Ltd., (The)
B. W. Trade Facilities Ltd.
Byas Mosley (Life and Pensions) Ltd.

CDFC (Ceylon) Ltd.
CDFC International Ltd.
CDFC (Malaysia) Ltd.
Cameron Fund Ltd. (The)
Capital Development Co. Ltd.
Carette and Co. Ltd.
Cashbonds Ltd.
Chrysler Wholesale Ltd.
Ciba Geigy (GFS) Ltd.
Circle and Piotrkow Provident and Investment Society Ltd.
City and Colonial Trust Ltd.
Claymore Field (Finance) Ltd.
Commerce International Trust Ltd.
Commonwealth Development Finance Co. Ltd.
Contemporary Finance Co. Ltd.
Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas
C. P. Choularton Sons and Partners Ltd.
Credit for Industry Ltd.

Dao Heng Bank Ltd.
D. F. J. Charles Ltd.
Development Finance International Ltd.
Diaome Ltd.
Dominion Charter Merchant Trust Ltd.
Dorset, Somerset and Wilts Investment Society Ltd.

Eastminster Trust Ltd.
Efdum Securities Ltd.
Equipment Credit Ltd.

Faircliffe Finance Co. Ltd., (The)
Farnworth Finance Facilities Ltd.
Fenlock Investments
Finance Corporation for Industry Ltd.
Finfur Ltd.
Firestone Tyre and Rubber Co. Ltd.
First British American Corporation Ltd., (The)
First Canadian Financial Services (UK)
First Guarantee Trust Co. Ltd.
First National Housing Trust Ltd.
Ford Financial Trust Ltd.
Ford Motor Credit Co. Ltd.
Fortgain Ltd.
F. W. Developments Ltd.

GEC Investments Ltd.
Gee and Watson (Welfare and Benevolent) Ltd.
General Reversionary and Investment Co. Ltd.
Glenniffer Finance Corporation Ltd.
Grand Metropolitan (Finance) Ltd.
Greyhound Equipment Finance Ltd.
Guardian Mortgage Co. Ltd.

Henderson Administration Ltd.
Hobbart Properties Ltd.
Hodge Finance Ltd.
Hoeschst Finance Ltd.
Home and Country Properties Ltd.

Ibos Finance Ltd.
Independent Factors Ltd.
Indochine Finance (UK) Ltd.
Industrial Export Finance Co. Ltd.
Insurance Export Finance Co. Ltd.
International Factors Ltd.
I. S. Blomfield Ltd.
Ivor Hill (Investments) Ltd.

J. F. Nash Finance Ltd.
J. P. Morgan Interfunding Corporation
John Laing Construction (Finance) Ltd.

Kingston Financial Services (Clyde) Ltd.

Laird Group Ltd., (The)
Lancashire and Yorkshire Reversionary Interest Co. Ltd.
Langersal Ltd.
Langham Life Finance Ltd.
Law Reversionary Interest Society Ltd., (The)
Libra Bank Ltd.
Liebherr-Great Britain Ltd.
Lington Holdings Ltd.
Linnet Property Co. Ltd.
Liverpool Reversionary Co. Ltd., (The)
Lloyds and Scottish Finance Ltd.
London Mercantile Finance Ltd.
London and Provincial Investments Ltd.

Mall Trust Corporation Ltd.
Manufacturers Hanover Export Finance Ltd.
Marsh Guaranty Finance Ltd.
Master Bakers and Confectioners Finance Co. Ltd.
Maybells Finance Ltd.
Merban Ltd.
Methodist Chapel Aid Association Ltd.
Millbank Development Services Ltd.
MIT Securities Ltd.
Mobil Europe Inc.
Mobil Services Co. Ltd.
Modern Investments Ltd.
Mutual Aid Association Ltd.

National and Commercial Development Capital Ltd.
National Film Finance Consortium Ltd.
New York London Trustee Co. Ltd.
Norman Frizzel (Life and Pensions) Ltd.
Northern and London Investment Trust Ltd.

Oakmere Finance Ltd.
Ogden Street Estate Ltd.

Pan American Employees Mutual Association Ltd.
Paribas Finance Ltd.
Phoenix Redcliffe Ltd.
Piper Finance Ltd.
Pleasure Heating Finance and Developments Ltd.
Produce and General Investments Ltd.
Property Investment and Finance (Developments) Ltd.

Queen Street Trust Ltd.

Raleigh Industries (Gradual Payments) Ltd.
Rediffusion Finance Ltd.
RIB Eastern Ltd.
RMC Finance Ltd.
Robert Fleming and Co. Ltd.
Robert Stanton Ltd.

S C R Finance Ltd.
Safari Investments Ltd.
St. James's Development Trust Ltd.
St. Paul's Guarantee Corporation Ltd.
Scottish Central Finance Ltd.
Scottish and European Finance Ltd.
Second Northern and London Investment Trust Ltd.
Selap Ltd.
Selection Trust Ltd.
Selective Guaranty Ltd.
Shellstar Ltd.
Ship Mortgage Finance Co. Ltd.
Small Industries Council for Rural Areas of Scotland
South Birmingham Savings Society Ltd.
Southcote Finance Co. Ltd.
Southern Finance Co. Ltd.
Southsea Mortgage and Investment Co. Ltd.
Standard Guarantee Ltd.
Stewart Salmon and Co. Ltd.
Swiss Bank Corporation (International Ltd.)

TKM Credit Corporation Ltd.

TWA United Kingdom Employees Credit Union Ltd.
Thomson North Sea Finance Co Ltd.
Timbleside Trading Co. Ltd.
Tokenhouse Finance Ltd.
Toronto Dominion Bank Investment (UK) Ltd.
Treesford Securities Ltd.
Trinity Trust and Savings Ltd.

UDT International Finance Ltd.

Warbridge Investment Co. Ltd.
Wates Ltd.
Wessex Finance Corporation Ltd.
West End Provident and Investment Society Ltd.
Western Discount Co. Ltd.
Westminster House and Land Investment Co. Ltd.
Wharton Street Credit Services Ltd.
Whitehall Securities Corporation Ltd.
Worcestershire Housing and Savings Society, (The)

Yelverton Finance (London) Ltd.
Yorkshire Bank Finance Ltd.

The following persons held certificates, valid at 31 March 1976, under Section 123 of the Companies Act, 1967, to the effect that they had satisfied the Department of Trade that they could properly be treated for the purposes of the Moneylenders Acts, 1900 to 1927 as being persons bona fide carrying on the business of banking.

African Continental Bank Ltd.
Allied Bank International
Amex Bank Ltd.
Anglo-Continental Trust Ltd.
Anglo-Eastern Bank Ltd.

Banco do Estado de Sao Paulo SA
Bank of Europe Ltd.
Bank Fur Gemeinwirtschaft AG
Bank Hapoalim BM
Bank of New Providence Ltd.
Bank of New South Wales Savings Bank Ltd.
Bank of Scotland Finance Co. Ltd.
Bank of Tokyo Trust Co., (The)
Barclays Bank Trust Co. Ltd.
Barnett, Christie Ltd.
Bear Securities Ltd.
Beverley Acceptances Ltd.
Boston Trust and Savings Ltd.
Bowmaker Ltd.
Bremar Holdings Ltd.
British Bank of Commerce Ltd.
Brook Securities and Co. Ltd.
Brown Harriman and International Banks Ltd.
Burlington Investments Ltd.
Burston Finance Ltd.

Cannon Street Acceptances Ltd.
C. E. Coates and Company Limited
Cedar Holdings Ltd.
Central Trustee Savings Bank Ltd.
Chancery Trust Ltd.
Chase Manhattan Ltd.
Citibank Trust Ltd.
Citicorp International Bank Ltd.
Cleveland Guaranty Ltd.
Clydesdale Bank Finance Corporation Ltd.
Commercial Bank of Malawi Ltd.
Commercial Bank of Wales Ltd.
Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia
Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia
Concorde Trust Ltd.
Consolidated Credits and Discounts Ltd.
Co-operative Commercial Bank Ltd.
Copleys Bank Ltd.
Corinthian Securities Ltd.
Credit Suisse White Weld Ltd.
Credito Italiano SpA
Cripps Warburg Ltd.

Dalscot Ltd.
David Samuel Trust Ltd.
Dawnay Day and Co. Ltd.
Drayton Corporation Ltd.
Duboff Brothers Ltd.
Dunbar and Co. Ltd.

Eagil Trust Co. Ltd.
Edward Bates and Sons Ltd.
E. S. Schwab and Co. Ltd.
European Brazilian Bank Ltd.

First Chicago Ltd.
First Fortune Ltd.
First International Bancshares Ltd.
First London Securities Ltd.
First Maryland Ltd.
First National Bank in Dallas
First National Finance Corp. Ltd.
First National Securities Ltd.

G. R. Dawes and Co. Ltd.
G. T. Whyte and Co. Ltd.
Goode Durrant Trust Ltd.
Gray Dawes and Co. Ltd.
Gresham Trust Ltd.
Greyhound Guaranty Ltd.

Havana International Bank Ltd.
Hawtin and Partners Ltd.
Henry Ansbacher and Co. Ltd.
Heritable and General Investment Bank Ltd.
HFC Trust Ltd.
Hokkaido Takushoku Bank Ltd.
Hume Corporation Ltd.

Industrial Bank of Japan Ltd., (The)
Industrial Bank of Scotland Ltd.
Investitions – Und Handels – Bank AG
Iran Overseas Investment Bank Ltd.
Italian International Bank Ltd.

Jacobs Kroll and Co. Ltd.
Janata Bank
Japan International Bank Ltd.
Julian S. Hodge and Co. Ltd.
Julius Baer International Ltd.

Knowlsey and Co. Ltd.

Lloyds Associated Banking Co. Ltd.
Lloyds and Scottish Trust Ltd.
Lombard North Central Ltd.
London and County Securities Ltd.

Bankruptcy records for England and Wales

Details of bankruptcies in England and Wales are maintained in a public search room at Room 901. Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2JY.

Searches can be made personally or by an agent and a fee of 25p in respect of each bankruptcy inquiry is payable at the time.

London and European Finance and Investment Ltd.
London Capital Securities Ltd.
London Mercantile Corporation Ltd.

Medens Trust Ltd.
Merrill Lynch International Bank Ltd.
Mitsubishi Bank Ltd., (The)

National Commercial Bank Ltd.
National Union Bank Ltd.
N. H. Woolley and Co. Ltd.
Nordic Bank Ltd.
North Carolina National Bank
Northern Commercial Trust Ltd.
Northern Trust Co., (The)
Norwich General Trust Ltd.

P. S. Refson and Co. Ltd.
People's Bank Ltd. (The)
Philipp Brothers and Joseph Ltd.
Pubali Bank

Raphael, Robinson and Glyn
Red Dragon Securities Ltd.
Republic National Bank of Dallas
Republic National Bank of New York
Robert Fraser & Partners Ltd.
Royal Bank of Canada Trust Corporation Ltd., (The)
Royal Trust Company of Canada, (The)

Samuel Montagu (MBFC) Ltd.
St. Margarets Finance Ltd.
Schlesinger Ltd.
Security Trust Company Ltd.
Societé Générale (France) Bank Ltd.
Sterling Credit Ltd.
Sterling Industrial Securities Ltd.

Thames Guaranty Ltd.
Tozer Standard and Chartered Ltd.
Trade Development Bank
Trucanda Trusts Ltd.
Twentieth Century Banking Corporation Ltd.

United Dominions Trust Ltd.
United International Bank Ltd.

Vavasseur Trust Co. Ltd., (The)
Vernons Trust Corporation

Wallace Brothers Bank Ltd.
Wells Fargo Ltd.
Western Bank Ltd.
Whiteaway, Laidlaw and Co. Ltd.
Williams, Glyn and Co.
Wintrust Securities Ltd.

Protection of Depositors Act 1963

Companies treated as banking or discount companies. The following companies are recognised by the Secretary of State as banking or discount companies for the purposes of the Protection of Depositors Act 1963 (as amended) as at 31 March 1976. Companies marked with an asterisk are also recognised as banking or discount companies for the purposes of Schedule 8 to the Companies Act 1948 (as amended).

*Alexanders Discount Co. Ltd.
Algemene Bank Nederland NV
*Allen, Harvey and Ross Ltd.
Allied Bank International
Allied Irish Banks Ltd.
*American Express International Banking Corporation
Amex Bank Ltd.
*Anglo-Portuguese Bank Ltd.
*Antony Gibbs Holdings Ltd.
*Arbuthnot Latham and Co. Ltd.
*Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd.

Banca Commerciale Italiana SpA
Banca Nazionale del Lavoro
*Banco de Bilbao
*Banco de Santander
Banco do Brasil SA
*Banco Espanol en Londres SA
*Bank Leumi (UK) Ltd.
Bank Melli Iran
*Bank of Adelaide (The)
*Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association
*Bank of Cyprus (London) Ltd.
*Bank of India
Bank of Ireland
*Bank of London and South America Ltd.
*Bank of Montreal
*Bank of New South Wales
*Bank of New Zealand
*Bank of Nova Scotia (The)
Bank of Scotland
Bank of Scotland Finance Co. Ltd.
*Bank of Tokyo Ltd. (The)
*Bankers Trust Co.
*Banque Belge Ltd.
*Banque Belgo-Zairoise SA
*Banque de L'Indochine et de Suez
Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, SA
*Banque de Suez (UK) Ltd.
*Banque Nationale de Paris Ltd.
Barclays Bank Ltd.
*Barclays Bank International Ltd.
Barclays Merchant Bank Ltd.
*Baring Brothers and Co. Ltd.
*Brandts Ltd.
*British Bank of the Middle East (The)
*Brown, Shipley and Co. Ltd.

*Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
*Cater Ryder and Co. Ltd.
Central Bank of India
*Charterhouse, Japhet Ltd.
*Chase Manhattan Bank, NA (The)
Chemical Bank
*C. Hoare and Co.
City National Bank of Detroit
*Clive Discount Co. Ltd.
Clydesdale Bank Ltd.
Clydesdale Bank Finance Corporation Ltd.
*Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd. (The)
*Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd. (The)
*Commercial Bank of the Near East Ltd. (The)
*Continental Trade Bank
Co-operative Bank Ltd.
County Bank Ltd.
Coutts and Co.
Coutts Finance Co.
*Crédit Industriel et Commercial
*Crédit Lyonnais
Credito Italiano SpA
Crocker National Bank

Dai Ichi Kangyo Bank Ltd.
Daiwa Bank Ltd. (The)
Detroit Bank and Trust Co. (The)
Dow Banking Corporation

European Brazilian Bank Ltd.

*First National Bank of Boston
*First National Bank of Chicago (The)
*First National City Bank
First Pennsylvania Bank NA
First Wisconsin National Bank of Milwaukee
Forward Trust Ltd.
Fuji Bank Ltd. (The)

*Gerrard and National Discount Co. Ltd.
*Gillett Brothers Discount Co. Ltd.
Girard Trust Bank
Gray Dawes and Co. Ltd.
*Grindlays Bank Ltd.
*Guiness Mahon and Co. Ltd.

*Habib Bank Ltd.
*Hambros Bank Ltd.
Harris Trust and Savings Bank
*Hill, Samuel and Co. Ltd.
*Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (The)

International Commercial Bank Ltd.
*International Westminster Bank Ltd.
*Ionian Bank Ltd.
Irving Trust Co.
Italian International Bank Ltd.

Japan International Bank Ltd.
*Jessel, Toynbee and Co. Ltd.
*J. Henry Schroder Wagg and Co. Ltd.
Johnson Matthey Bankers Ltd.
Julian S. Hodge and Co. Ltd.
Julius Baer International Ltd.

*Keyser Ullmann Ltd.
*King and Shaxson Ltd.
*Kleinwort Benson Ltd.

*Lazard Brothers and Co. Ltd.
*Leopold Joseph and Sons Ltd.
*Lewis's Bank Ltd.
Lloyds Associated Banking Co. Ltd.
Lloyds Bank Ltd.
*Lloyds Bank International Ltd.
*Lloyds Bank International (France) Ltd.
Lombard North Central Ltd.
London Multinational Bank Ltd.
*Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co.
Marine Midland Bank – New York
*Mellon Bank NA
Mercantile Bank Ltd.
Mercantile Credit Co. Ltd.
Merrill Lynch International Bank Ltd.
Midland Bank Ltd.
*Midland and International Banks Ltd.
Mitsui Bank Ltd.
*Morgan Grenfell and Co. Ltd.
*Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York
*Moscow Narodny Bank Ltd.

*National Bank of Australasia Ltd. (The)
National Bank of Detroit
*National Bank of Greece SA
*National Bank of New Zealand Ltd. (The)
*National Commercial and Glyns Ltd.
National Westminster Bank Ltd.
*Nedbank Ltd.
*NM Rothschild and Sons Ltd.
Nordic Bank Ltd.
Northern Trust Company of Chicago.

*Ottoman Bank

*Rea Brothers Ltd.
Republic National Bank of Dallas
*Royal Bank of Canada (The)
Royal Bank of Scotland Ltd. (The)

*Samuel Montagu and Co. Ltd.
Samuel Montagu (MBFC) Ltd.
*Sanwa Bank Ltd. (The)
Scandinavian Bank Ltd.
*Seccombe, Marshall and Campion Ltd.
Security Pacific National Bank
*S. G. Warburg and Co. Ltd.
*Singer and Friedlander Ltd.
*Slater, Walker Ltd.
*Smith, St. Aubyn and Co. Ltd.
*Société Générale pour Favoriser le Développement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France SA
Standard Chartered Bank Ltd. (The)
*State Bank of India
Sumitomo Bank Ltd. (The)
*Swiss Bank Corporation

Tokai Bank Ltd. (The)
*Toronto-Dominion Bank (The)

*Union Bank of Switzerland
*Union Discount Company of London Ltd. (The)
*United Bank Ltd.
United Dominions Trust Ltd.
United International Bank Ltd.

Wells Fargo Ltd.
Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale
Western American Bank (Europe) Ltd.
Williams, Glyn and Co.
Williams and Glyn's Bank Ltd.

*Yorkshire Bank Ltd.

Technology News

Money to burn – or a more economical fuel?

Choice of fuel is too often based on prejudice. By changing from steam to direct fired gas for heating vats and tanks, for instance, industry could save 1,000 million therms a year – at 12p a therm, £120 million – a fact that could be explained by ignorance as much as an undue respect for tradition.

Peter King, who heads the British Gas School of Fuel Management in Solihull is convinced that Britain is facing a struggle for survival in a world energy crisis.

Although the UK already has indigenous energy reserves, with more natural gas and oil on the way, the balance of payments shows a deficit of £2,500 million, most of which is due to our importation of oil and petroleum products. It is therefore important to reduce these imports, and one way in which this can be achieved is to make greater use of indigenous fuel.

It has been calculated that of all the fuel used in the UK only 58.5 per cent is available to the end user, 0.8 per cent being lost in transportation of energy and the remainder in flue gases and in wastage by other inefficient applications. Of the total waste of energy 25 per cent is from stack losses in electricity generation.

Two separate courses

This is the type of study undertaken at the British Gas School of Fuel Management which specialises in fuel efficiency. At present they offer two separate courses.

The first, for senior executives in the public and private sectors, provides an overall appreciation of energy supply problems. It shows how immediate economies can be effected without capital outlay, by applying good husbandry to plant and equipment already installed.

The second course, for works managers and energy conservation officers, deals with the practical and technical aspects of fuel management. They are shown how an energy audit can emphasise areas for improvement. On this more practical course, simple, straightforward steps to achieve significant fuel economies are demonstrated. Advanced process heating plant and combustion systems are discussed, and advice given in the techniques of measuring distribution losses and the methods of reducing them. Waste heat recovery and self-recuperative burner applications are featured together with laboratory demonstrations and experiments.

The British Gas Regions are also running courses developed by the School of Fuel Management for works managers, plant engineers and supervisors, dealing with practical and technical aspects of fuel management. They are shown how an energy audit can emphasise areas for improvement, by balancing energy purchased against actual energy needs, and the identification of losses and waste. On this more practical course, members are shown how to take simple, straightforward steps to achieve significant fuel economies.

Despite the high reputation of these courses it is evident from research that a large number of organisations continue to use fuel inefficiently.

Implications of the energy situation

Too many companies simply do not realise the implications of the energy situation. Such organisations could well start by examining the efficiency with which their different process plant uses heat. A price of 12p a therm for natural gas becomes 17p a therm of useful heat in low temperature heating plant and as much as 48p in high temperature heating.

In general steam should be phased out and consideration given to direct firing. An example is the heating of vats and tanks. The vast majority could be heated by direct firing, which gives between 85 and 90 per cent efficiency – an improvement which could save Britain some 1,000 million therms of fuel a year.

The Fuel Managers course, which lasts for five days, normally costs £150 but has been reduced to £75 as a special offer for the next three months. For further information contact British Gas School of Fuel Management, Midlands Research Station, Wharf Lane, Solihull, West Midlands B91 2JW (tel. 021-705 7581).

Getting down to it

The first commercial deep sea diving course in Britain started at the Underwater Training Centre at Fort William yesterday, in the shadow of Ben Nevis. They will be diving down into the waters of Loch Linnhe to depths beyond 100m from 'Deep Diver 1', the Centre's new diving training complex.

Atmospheric pollution from vehicles

Vehicle exhaust gases contribute an increasing proportion of the atmospheric pollution in urban areas and part of a continuing programme of assessment the transport and Road Research Laboratory have now published the results of measurements taken in Coventry.

Four sites were chosen to be representative of the city and at each site, the major air pollutants associated with traffic, together with some meteorological parameters and traffic flows, were monitored for a period of one week. The levels of pollution were found to be commensurate with those reported for urban areas elsewhere in England.

Having established that wind speed and traffic density were the most important factors a simple mathematical model of pollution behaviour was developed. The model used an empirically determined function relating wind speed to pollutant dispersion and improved on predictions based on traffic alone. This function varied considerably for the different sites, limiting the usefulness of the model to those locations where sufficient data were available. For the sites in the survey, the model produced reasonably accurate predictions of the carbon monoxide concentration from traffic and wind speed data.

A copy of the full report, LR 695, may be obtained from the Library, Transport and Road Research Laboratory, Old Wokingham Road, Crowthorne, Berkshire.

10 million degrees in Culham tokamak

Culham Laboratory has brought into operation a new major nuclear fusion device called DITE (Divertor Injection Tokamak Experiment). Commissioning was completed in March and plasma experiments have already achieved temperatures of over 10,000,000°C.

DITE is the latest in a series of tokamak devices at Culham. The tokamak is the most promising approach to fusion research – an electricity-producing nuclear fusion reactor. The physical parameters of DITE have been chosen to meet three specific aims: to improve on the plasma parameters of earlier tokamaks at Culham by achieving temperatures greater than 10 million degrees and confinement times greater than 1/100 second; to increase appreciably the plasma temperature by the injection of powerful beams of energetic neutral atoms, as will be required on future large machines such as JET (Joint European Torus); and to keep plasma free from impurities and to extract 'exhaust' plasma from the main discharge using a divertor device.

DITE has a toroidal vacuum chamber of major and minor radii 1.17 m and 0.27 m respectively linked by a large transformer core. This is used to induce a current of 250,000 amperes through the plasma which acts as a single-turn secondary. The plasma current also establishes one component of the required confining magnetic field: the other component is produced by a set of toroidal field coils around the torus.

DITE is the first large tokamak to include a divertor in its design. The divertor has already exhausted plasma from the outer regions of the discharge without appreciably disturbing the equilibrium of the central plasma column.

Culham's fusion research forms part of a co-ordinated European programme and since DITE is considered a priority project within this programme, 44 per cent of its capital cost of £870,000 was provided by Euratom.

Bus accident survey

A £25,000 survey, aimed at improving bus safety standards, is being jointly financed by the Department of Industry's Mechanical Engineering and Machine Tools Requirements Board and the Motor Industry Research Association. MEMTRB and MIRA are each paying half the cost.

MIRA is currently carrying out the work which is planned to last for two years, but which may be extended. The association hopes to launch a similar coach survey later. So far MIRA has sent 4,500 accident report forms to 21 organisations for details of accidents in their areas. The bus operators are providing the data free and, in some cases, employing full-time staff on survey work.

The scheme is called the National Public Service Vehicle Accident Survey. London Transport Executive, the National Bus Co., the Scottish Bus Group and several local authorities are among the passenger transport undertakings participating. Others may join.

Further details of the survey and copies of the accident report form from: Motor Industry Research Association, Watling Street, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV10 0TU (tel. Nuneaton 68541).

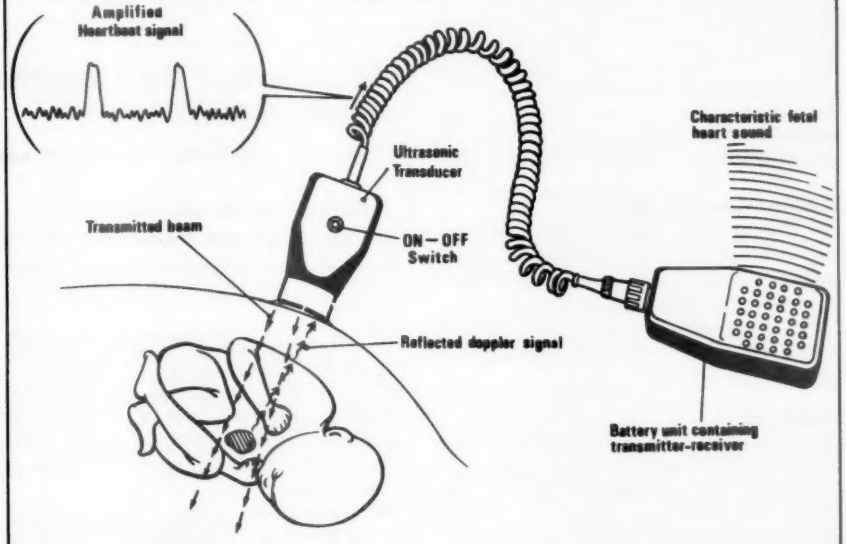
Paper savings

Opening the spring conference and exhibition of the British Paper and Board Industry Federation in Brighton recently, Lord Lovell-Davis said: 'I am told that many of your mills have a high level of self-generated electrical energy and are achieving an impressive thermal efficiency of around 70-75 per cent; that the by-products from timber are not discarded – but used as fuel, and that research work is also being undertaken to develop a dry-foaming process which might reduce energy requirements by as much as a quarter compared with conventional processes.

'The paper and board industry is one of the largest consumers of energy in the UK. Energy accounts for between 10 per cent and 15 per cent of the final product cost.'

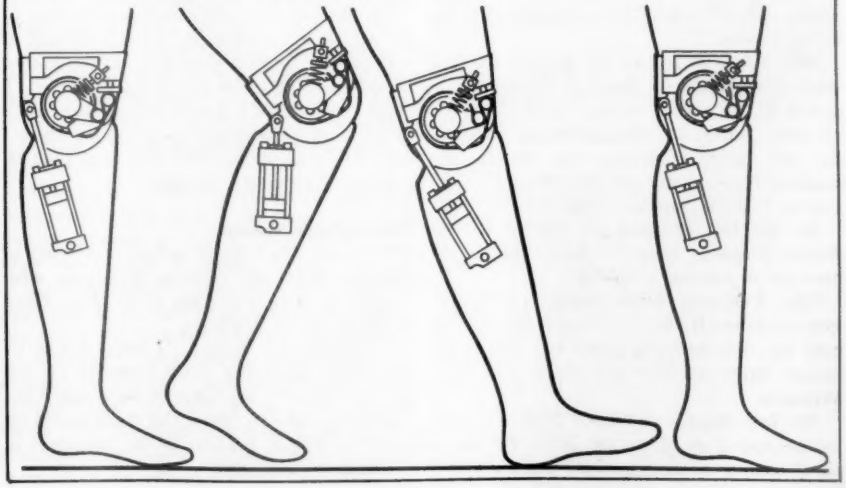
Design Council awards for medical equipment

The 1976 Design Council awards for medical equipment recognise the combination of suitability with ease of operation. The selection reflected concern that while performing its function safely and accurately, the equipment would not make undue demands on the non-medical skills of specialists, consultants and nursing staff.



The Pocket Sonicaid (above) was selected on the grounds of its compact size, usefulness, good design and reasonable price – under £100 in the UK. It is an ultrasonic, doppler instrument which detects the presence of a viable foetus after the 12th week and makes it possible to hear the baby's heartbeat. Useful in detecting multiple pregnancies and an invaluable warning of early threatened abortions, it can also be used to reassure nervous patients by enabling them to listen to the heartbeats of the unborn child.

Among the winners was a 'natural' artificial limb, cumbersomely titled the Blatchford Modular Assembly Prosthesis. Unlike earlier models, it is covered with a warm, soft plastics material and because the limb is made from standard components, selected from stock, the patient does not have to wait long periods for delivery.



Parliament

Monday, 12 April

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Lord Melchett
Leslie Huckfield

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: Shirley Williams
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

London Metal Exchange

Mr. Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would seek powers to control or limit speculative dealings in the London Metal Exchange.

'The Government pays very close attention to the development of dealings on the London Metal Exchange,' said Mr. Kaufman 'as also on the other commodity markets in London, and I am confident that our monitoring procedures are adequate to prevent abuses. The London Metal Exchange is a world market, which reflects world-wide changes in supply and demand. Pressures on LME prices, which in the case of copper had been particularly depressed, have recently been exceptional: they included the fall in the sterling exchange rate, which automatically raised LME quotations, and a strong flow of orders from industry for restocking.'

Industrial development

Mr. Anthony Grant (Harrow Central) asked how many industrial development certificates for developments of less than 10,000 square feet were refused in the South Eastern region in the last two years.

Mr. Kaufman said that from 1 March 1974 to 29 February 1976, seven such applications were refused.

Retail prices

Questions about the rise in the retail price increase over the last three months, the past two months and the percentage rise since February 1974 were asked by Mr. Tim Sainsbury (Hove), Mr. William Molloy (Ealing North) and Mr. John Wakeham (Maldon).

Mrs. Williams said: 'In the last two monthly and three monthly periods the increases were 2.6 per cent and 3.9 per cent respectively. The Retail Price Index increased by 47.3 per cent between February 1974 and February 1976, the latest month for which information is available.'

Mr Tim Renton (Mid-Sussex) asked what the six month annualised rate of inflation was in the six months ending December 1975, January 1976 and February 1976.

Mrs. Williams answered: 'Despite the fact that these three six monthly periods comprised 25, 26 and 27 weeks respectively, the all items Index, less seasonal foods, which is the best trend indicator, has on an annualised basis steadily declined from 14.1 per cent to 13.6 per cent to 13.2 per cent.'

Mr. Ian Gow (Eastbourne): and Mr Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) asked for figures showing the latest year on year rate of inflation.

'The February 1976 month on month increase in the Retail Price Index was 1.3 per cent and this brought down the overall 12 month figure to 22.9 per cent,' said Mrs. Williams.

Mr. John Stonehouse (Walsall North) asked for an assessment of the effect of the continued decline of the £ sterling on domestic retail prices of food, clothing and other essential items with a high import content.

'Sterling depreciation affects domestic prices differently depending on import content,' said Mrs. Williams. 'It has been estimated, however, that a 5 per cent depreciation leads to a 1-1½ per cent increase in the Retail Price Index over a period of about one year.'

Sir George Young (Ealing, Acton) wanted to know the percentage rise in retail prices from 1951 to 1964, from 1964 to 1970, from 1970 to 1973 and from February 1974 to the latest available date.

Mr. Maclennan gave him the following figures corresponding to these periods: 54.8 per cent, 31.0 per cent, 28.0 per cent and 47.3 per cent respectively.

Mr. Michael Marshall (Arundel) asked for an estimate of the rise anticipated in the retail price index when the present price check agreement comes to an end.

Mr. Maclennan said that the movement of the Retail Price Index in the second half of 1976 would depend primarily on the extent of continued restraint on all forms of pay. 'I expect the rate of inflation to continue to fall as we work towards our target of an annual rate of increase in the RPI no greater than 10 per cent next winter,' he said.

Price Check Scheme

Mr. Marcus Fox (Shipley) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what changes she intends to make to the Price Check Scheme in view of the Budget.

Mrs. Williams replied: 'I hope it will be possible to maintain price restraint on the items affected by increases in duty, and I am consulting industry about the implications for the Price Check Scheme of the proposals in the Budget statement.'

Food subsidies

Mr. Peter Bottomley (Greenwich, Woolwich West) asked for the estimated saving per week, for a single person, as a result of the present level of food subsidies.

'The average saving for a single person living alone is estimated to be about 24p per week,' said Mr. Maclennan.

Consumer credit

Mr. Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar) asked what plans the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has to introduce legislation to regulate the conduct of mail order business.

Mr. Williams, then Minister of State, DPCP answered: 'The provisions of the Consumer Credit Act 1974, which apply generally to credit transactions involving mail order, will become fully operative over the next 18 months.

'I shall also publish tomorrow the report of the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee on the proposals by the Director General of Fair Trading to control prepayment in mail order transactions and shops, and will shortly be laying before Parliament a draft order reflecting the action I propose to take on the report.'

Consumer protection within EEC

Miss Janet Fookes (Plymouth, Drake) asked: 'What steps are HM Government taking to strengthen consumer protection within the EEC?'

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'We have played an active part in the preparation of the Community Consumer Protection and Information Programme and are participating fully in discussions on a number of proposals designed to benefit consumers throughout the community. Officials of my department have also recently met represen-

tatives of the commission and of other member states to discuss priorities for the future.'

Consumer protection

Miss Betty Boothroyd (West Bromwich West) asked whether the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection would extend the powers of consumer protection officers to enable them to investigate allegations of excessive charges or unjustifiable price rises.

Mr. Williams answered: 'Responsibility for investigating excessive charges or unjustifiable price rises rests with the Price Commission. But Consumer Advice Centres and Citizens Advice Bureaux are the instruments for pursuing individual complaints. The role of Consumer Protection Officers is to investigate misleading statements about prices.'

Fair Trading Act

Mr. Richard Luce (Shoreham) asked whether the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, was satisfied with the operation of Part 2 of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

'I am not wholly satisfied with the way Part II has operated so far', said Mr. Williams. 'But when all concerned have had more experience of the novel procedure introduced by the Act I expect it to operate more quickly.'

Price Code

Mr. Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford) asked for a statement on progress in negotiations about the future of the Price Code.

Mrs. Williams said: 'Many organisations have made representations and I am considering the evidence and views put to me in the framework of the Government's economic objectives. I am very willing to receive views from other interested organisations.'

Mr. Geoffrey Dodsworth (South West Hertfordshire) asked for a statement about the effect of the Price Code on investment.

'I amended the Price Code 15 months ago to introduce a new investment relief, and on 22 January of this year I extended the relief for a further period,' said Mrs. Williams. 'In reviewing prices policy, I am taking full account of the importance of industrial investment.'

Hallmarking

Mr. Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked for a statement on the policy of HM Government towards the EEC draft directive on precious metals 'which could alter the well established system of hallmarking now operating in the United Kingdom'.

Mr. William's answered: 'While the draft directive is intended to reduce barriers to trade in articles of precious metals within the community, I am considering representations that its implementation in its present form might adversely affect our trade, weaken the protection afforded to consumers by our present hallmarking system, and be technically unsatisfactory. In further community discussions we shall be making it clear that, to gain UK support, the directive must take account of the interests of all the member states of the community and the desirability of including effective technical provisions on quality control and marking.'

Metrication

Mr. Giles Shaw (Pudsey) asked what plans the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has to keep the public informed of the problems created by metrication.

Mr. Williams said: 'When in Government the Opposition entered into international committments to metricate and to allow the import of metric goods after a set date. To avoid confusion and unnecessary cost for consumers as a result of these commitments it is necessary to complete the metrication programme in an orderly fashion. These possible problems could become more acute as increasing numbers of school-leavers, trained primarily in the metric system, have to contend with the protracted use of a dual system in our shops and factories.'

Mr. Robert McCrindle asked how many representations on metrication have been received since 23 March from bodies representing industry and consumers, respectively.

Mr. Williams replied: 'Since 23 March I have received representations from 21 organisations, 14 representing industry and seven representing consumers. The overwhelming majority of representations received by the department, both before and after 23 March, support the view that the orderly completion of the metrication programme is essential and that there should be no avoidable delay in the progress of the Weights and Measures etc. Bill.'

Tuesday, 13 April

Planning Agreements

Mr. J. W. Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr) asked when the Secretary of State for Industry expects to start discussions leading to Planning Agreements.

Mr. Varley's reply is published on page 195.

Regional development

Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would review regional development incentives with particular attention to the question of whether the employment promised in projects at the time of grant approval have in fact materialised.

Mr. MacKenzie, then Minister of State, Department of Industry, answered: 'The provision of regional development grant is not linked to jobs or projects as such but to new investment in the assisted areas. In the provision of regional selective assistance under Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 account is taken of the jobs to be created, safeguarded or maintained by an assisted project, and the progress of such projects is maintained. If the nature and scale of the project changes the assistance is reviewed.'

Mr. Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) asked what study has been made of the contribution which small development areas outside the major assisted areas could make to reduce unemployment.

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'A more localised approach to the problem of regional unemployment was attempted in the early 1960's through the designation of development districts. This policy was modified in the light of experience in 1966 in favour of larger continuous development areas. Regional incentives to promote industry and employment are more effective if they are available within broadly defined areas which are not subject to frequent change.

'Regional incentives are designed to alleviate long-term structural unemployment rather than unemployment caused by a recession which we are countering with other measures.

'The National Enterprise Board will have regard to the needs of areas of high unemployment, whether within or outside the assisted areas.'

Oil supply ships

Mr. Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) asked for the number of oil supply ships on order or under construction for British owners in 1975 in Scottish, English, Welsh, Northern Irish and foreign yards.

Mr. Kaufman gave the number of oil supply ships on order for registration in the United Kingdom on 31 December 1975 as:

	Not under construction	Under construction
England	3	7
Scotland	—	1
Other UK yards	—	—
Foreign yards	3	7
Total	6	15

Definition of 'a pint of beer'

Mr. Nicholas Winterton asked what criteria is used by the DPCP in determining what constitutes a pint of beer; and if the 'head' is included in it.

Mr. Williams replied: 'The relevant legislation, the 1963 Weights and Measures Act, does not specify what constitutes a pint of beer. Prosecutions for short measure are entirely in the hands of local Weights and Measures Authorities and it is for the courts to determine whether the Act has been complied with. In one particular case, that of a well-known stout, the High Court has ruled that the "head" is an integral part of the drink.'

National Federation of Consumer Groups

Mr. Ioan Evans (Aberdare) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection would provide financial assistance to the National Federation of Consumer Groups.

Mr. Williams replied: 'I have decided, subject to parliamentary approval of the necessary supplementary estimate, to make in 1976/7 a grant in aid of £4,000 to the National Federation of Consumer Groups, to support their work in connection with the formation of new local, consumer groups and also to assist with their general administrative expenses.'

Tourism

Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked what has been the amount of financial assistance given by the Government to the English Tourist Board in each of the past 10 years; and what is the estimated figure for the next financial year.

'Provision for financial assistance given by Government to the English Tourist Board is contained within the Department of Trade's Vote,' said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'The figures since the Board was set up in 1969, including those proposed for 1976/77 are set out in the Annual Estimates (Class IV) which are available in the library of the House.'

Mrs. Helene Hayman (Welwyn and Hatfield) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would announce further appointments to the Organising Committee for British Aerospace.

Mr. Varley announced: 'I have appointed the following as members of the Organising Committee for British Aerospace, under the chairmanship of Lord Beswick:

Mr. L. W. Buck – President of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, and General Secretary, National Union of Sheet Metal Workers, Coppersmiths and Domestic Heating Engineers.
Mr. A. H. C. Greenwood, CBE – Chairman, British Aircraft Corporation Ltd.
Mr. G. R. Jefferson, CBE – Chairman and managing director, Guided Weapons Division, British Aircraft Corporation Ltd.
Dr. A. W. Pearce, CBE – Chairman, Esso Petroleum Co. Ltd.
Mr. E. G. Rubython – General manager, Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd.
Mr. J. T. Stamper – Technical director, Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd.

'It is my intention in due course to appoint Mr. Greenwood as a full-time deputy chairman of British Aerospace; Messrs. Buck, Jefferson, Rubython and Stamper as full-time members; and Dr. Pearce as a part-time member. I expect to make further appointments in due course.'

Wednesday, 14 April

Shipbuilding industry

Mr. Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) asked for a statement on the action, other than nationalisation, taken by the Department of Industry to deal with the problem of shortage of orders in the shipbuilding industry.

Mr. Kaufman replied: 'My Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Industry with my Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Trade has had discussions on the matter with the General Council for British Shipping and further detailed consultations are in train between the General Council, the Organising Committee for British Shipbuilders and the Government. He hopes to see close co-operation between UK shipowners and UK shipbuilders in the placing of new orders. He announced on 8 April that he proposed to extend the Cost Escalation Insurance Scheme to orders from UK shipowners and a scheme under which a government guarantee may be given that stage payments would be refunded to an owner ordering a vessel at a British yard which is to be nationalised if that yard should fail before nationalisation.'

Small firms

Mr. Geoffrey Robinson (Coventry North East) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry, has any further proposals to assist small firms, particularly with problems related to the day to day running of their businesses.

Mr. MacKenzie's reply was published in *Trade and Industry* of 16 April, page 135.

Accelerated capital project scheme

Mr. J. W. Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr) asked for the number of projects under the accelerated capital projects scheme approved in Birmingham and the West Midlands; and the total value of the investment.

'Eight projects involving investment in this area have been approved to date, with total costs, including working capital, of £20.722 million,' said Mr. MacKenzie.

'Is the Secretary of State for Industry satisfied with the take up of aid available under the accelerated capital projects scheme?' asked Mr. Rooker.

'The Scheme has made a valuable contribution by bringing forward some £250 million of investment to date,' replied Mr. MacKenzie. 'But more projects are under examination and I would welcome further proposals.'

Baled scrap

Questions about rises and fluctuations in the price of baled scrap were asked by Mr. Ken Weetch (Ipswich).

Mr. Kaufman replied: 'The prices paid for baled and other ferrous scrap and the procurement of adequate supplies are commercial matters for which the consuming industries are responsible. Since the removal at the end of 1974 of restrictions on exports of scrap to the community, prices have been increasingly determined by world market pressures. The British Steel Corporation aims to secure its supplies as economically as possible and, along with other consumers, contributes to stable trading conditions by importing scrap during periods of shortage. The Corporation is also increasing its production of iron which should help to relieve the scrap shortage.

'We have reduced by 25 per cent the April-June 1976 quota for exports to non-community countries of low grade scrap (which includes some baled scrap). No exports to these countries of higher grade scrap are permitted. The Government will continue to keep the export situation under review.'

Potato prices

Mr. Ioan Evans (Aberdare) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer protection had received a further monthly report from the Price Commission on distributors margins in the potato trade.

'I have received the second of the Commission's reports, which I have placed in the Library', Mrs. Williams answered. 'The comparison of average producer, wholesale and retail prices in March indicates that there has been little overall change in distributors' cash margins since the beginning of the year. This means that with increased prices there has actually been some decline in percentage margins. The level of margins derived from this comparison is confirmed by an examination of the actual buying and selling prices of a sample of wholesalers and retailers.'

Price of meat

Mr. Caerwyn Roderick (Brecon and Radnor) asked for a statement on the outcome of the recent unit pricing experiment on meat and on the present position of the price marking programme.

Mr. Maclennan replied: 'A report on the meat pilot scheme has been circulated today to all the organisations that took part and meetings are to be held shortly to discuss outstanding problems: I will then prepare proposals for an order. Formal proposals for legislation are now being drawn up to extend both weight marking and unit pricing to many varieties of cheese. A meeting will be held shortly to consider outstanding problems

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before final proposals are made for extending unit pricing for fish. A draft order modifying provisions relating to the sale of prepacked milk from vending machines is now before Parliament: if it is approved I expect to make this the subject of a unit pricing order shortly after Easter.'

Price Check Scheme

Mr. Adam Butler (Bosworth) asked from what register or registers originated the addresses of all the traders and other persons who received details and material of the Government's 'Red Triangle' Price Check Scheme.

'The addresses to which Price Check material was sent came from lists compiled by Thomson Sales and Services Limited on the basis of information contained in the Post Office Yellow Pages classified telephone directories,' said Mr. Maclennan. 'Kits have also been sent to addresses which have been supplied as a result of advertising in the retail trade press and of other publicity given to the availability of the kits.'

Monopolies report on oil companies

Mr. John Prescott (Kingston upon Hull, East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: 'If she is aware that the European Commission Report on oil company activities given to her monopolies inquiry into oil companies has had a certain section on transfer prices removed from the original report; and if she will now demand the original report from the Commission?'

Mr. Williams replied: 'The Monopolies Commission has powers to obtain any information relevant to its investigations from companies operating in the UK.'

Unctad IV

Mr. Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked for a full list of names of members of the UK delegation to Unctad IV in Nairobi in May.

'The UK delegation to Unctad IV will be headed by the Secretary of State for Trade,' said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'At official level the leader will be Mr William Knighton (Department of Trade). He will be assisted by Mr J. C. Mason (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Mr. J. L. F. Buist (Ministry of Overseas Development), and Mr. J. H. V. Davies (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food), together with a number of other officials from these departments and the Department of Industry.'

Arab Boycott

Dr. Rhodes Boyson (Brent North) asked about guidance given by the Department of Trade to British companies affected by the Arab Boycott of firms which trade with Israel.

Mr. Clinton Davies replied that the department has prepared a note on the operation of the Arab Boycott of Israel to help remove misunderstandings and unnecessary anxieties among British businessmen. 'Officials are always ready to discuss specific problems with individual firms,' he added.

Company law

Mr. Bob Cryer (Keighley) asked if legislation would be introduced to prevent persons convicted of serious offences from becoming company directors within a period of five years of release and to prevent them from forming companies where the memorandum of association includes the use of events leading up to and including their criminal conviction.

Mr. Clinton Davis said: 'I am considering the law on the disqualification of persons from acting as directors or taking part in the management of companies as part of my general review of company law and will take account of this suggestion. Under existing legislation, companies may be formed only for a lawful purpose.'

Domestic air fares

Mr. Neil Macfarlane (Sutton and Cheam) asked: 'What is the percentage increase in passenger air-fares charged by British Airways between April 1974 and April 1976?'

'On the main domestic trunk routes the single tourist fare increased by 51 per cent between these two dates,' said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'On international routes fare increases have in general been smaller than this, but the continually changing structure of international air fares, particularly with the introduction of new excursion and low-fare holiday categories, together with the wide variation in the timing and amount of fare increases on different routes, make it impossible to provide an average figure that would be reasonably representative.'

EEC – India agreement on textiles

Mr. Nicholas Winterton asked the Secretary of State for Trade for a statement on the Agreement between the EEC and the Republic of India on trade in textile products; and if he would publish the workings of the burden sharing formula by comparing the UK's share in percentage terms of the imports of cotton woven fabrics with that of Italy in 1975, 1976, and 1977; and when Italy would reach its target figure.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'As a result of the Agreement negotiated between the EEC and the Republic of India under the Gatt Multifibre Arrangement, India has agreed to restrict its exports to the EEC of certain cotton textiles and clothing. The particular case of woven cotton fabrics from India is not completely representative of the workings of the burden-sharing formula because the UK's share of such community imports has historically been much higher than other member states' shares and the Italian share particularly low. It is not possible to state precisely when Italy will reach its target figure since quotas have only been set for the three years up to the expiry of the Agreement with India. The UK's and Italy's shares in percentage terms of community quotas for woven cotton fabrics from India are:'

BN no.	Description	1975	1976	1977
55.09	Other woven fabrics of cotton			
	United Kingdom	65.3	61.4	57.6
	Italy	2.9	3.5	4.2
	of which:			
ex 55.09	Cotton fabrics other than grey or bleached			
	United Kingdom	51.7	48.5	45.7
	Italy	6.3	7.1	8.0

Note:
No allowance has been made for flexibility in the use of quotas.

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Bright outlook now for trade in Latin America

This short analysis of the medium-term prospects for trade in Latin America has been prepared from a report* published by the Economic Affairs Committee at Canning House, the BOTB area advisory group for Latin America.

After a difficult year in 1975, Latin America is now well placed to take advantage of a world economic recovery leading to increased demands for the wide range of raw materials produced in the area.

Last year's difficulties, which were experienced equally in other developing areas, were the result of high oil import bills, increases in other import costs, and a fall in commodity prices due to world recession. Whilst further but less major problems lie ahead in 1976, there should be appreciable medium term scope for an increase in both the volume and value of imports into the area.

The oil situation has in many cases improved; as net exporters, Venezuela and Ecuador have been joined by Mexico and Bolivia, whilst Peru should achieve self-sufficiency. Relative political stability and improved economic management in most of the countries concerned will help them to benefit from the improving world situation, as will a greater appreciation of the value of developing agriculture for its import saving benefits.

Although heavy capital inflows will be required up to the end of the decade, the experience of the last two years gives ground for hope that the cost of servicing extra borrowing will not be too burdensome. Against the relatively favourable outlook for expansion there is room for an appreciable increase in UK exports to the area.

* Copies of the full report, which presents the committee's views on the current position of trade with Latin America and the outlook up to the end of the decade, may be obtained from Canning House, 2 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PJ, at 50p per copy.

The library at Canning House is the largest lending library in Britain specialising in Iberian and Latin American affairs. It is one of the facilities provided for commerce and industry by the Canning house organisation which comprises the Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Council and the Economic Affairs Council. The organisation, which has been established to promote commercial and business relations between the UK and the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking world, offers a regular programme of meetings, luncheons, discussion meetings and seminars, as well as providing facilities for firms outside London to hold their own receptions and meetings there.

Venezuela

The Government in Venezuela is giving high priority to diversifying the economy. Imports rose by 46 per cent to $3.8 billion in 1974 and over the first five months of 1975 there was a further increase of 28 per cent. Meanwhile the huge accruals of reserves over the last two years are being responsibly managed.

A current account deficit is likely to arise in the next two years because of increased imports much of which, it is expected, may be financed by borrowing; but in the light of the size of the reserves this should cause no problems.

Agriculture

Plans involve the expenditure of $1,908 million over five years to improve production and efficiency. Additional expenditure is envisaged for the fishing industry.

Steel

Production is to be rapidly expanded involving a massive import of plant, equipment and managerial and technical know-how; the state steel industry will receive $3,574.

Petroleum

This sector has an ambitious programme with expenditure totalling $5,470 million.

Other sectors scheduled for development include all forms of surface transport, electricity generation and transmission, telecommunications and social infrastructure.

Brazil

In Brazil increased costs of oil and raw materials have led to a deterioration in the balance of payments. However, natural resources and a growing industrial base, as well as the likely increase in the proportion of home-produced oil from the

current 20 per cent of her needs, permits the taking of a favourable view in the medium-term future.

Although exports are unlikely to grow at the rate experienced in the early 1970s, Brazil should be able to count on a satisfactory expansion of earnings from this source.

The stable government and good economic management should help to maintain the willingness of foreign lenders to provide the capital required by Brazil and there is ample scope for investment; and although recent restrictions may mean that there will be little room to expand imports in the immediate future, this situation should change after the next couple of years.

Railways

Heavy investment is scheduled for this sector, extending the existing system by 2,500km of new track, improving other sections and increasing rolling stock.

Steel

Production is to be expanded from the current 1 million tons to 39 million tons by 1984.

Electric power

Generating is to expand from 17,378Mw to 47,000Mw by 1985.

Among other developments, investment in agriculture is expected to amount to $15,400 million, and in ports and harbours to $1,300 million.

Mexico

The balance of payments in Mexico deteriorated last year largely because of the United States recession. The recovery in the US economy should have an immediate beneficial effect on the Mexican economy which will be further strengthened by diversification of exports of petroleum.

To ensure continued economic growth there will remain a need for substantial borrowings, though in the short term these may be somewhat lower because of the decision to cut public expenditure in real terms in 1976. The prospect of continued political stability and good economic management should ensure steady economic progress in the future, with plenty of opportunity for UK capital goods exports and joint ventures.

Transport

Plans include provision for two container ports linked by a double track railway across the Tehuantepec Isthmus.

Oil refining

Capacity will be increased by three refineries.

Copper smelting

A project is planned at Empalme.

Steel

The Stage II expansion at Las Truchas will cost $940 million.

Argentina

Argentina is one of the larger markets of Latin America. In the past two years political uncertainty has been bad for the economy, but following the recent assumption of power by the military, a new 'orthodox' economic programme has been announced which is designed to give every encouragement to foreign investment and the private sector.

Argentina is a country rich in natural and human resources and under the new regime should stand a good chance of economic recovery, though this may take a little time. The

fishing industry, the agro-industry, hydroelectricity, and the iron and steel and paper industries are all future development areas.

Ecuador

The increase in oil prices benefited Ecuador's economy, but relaxation of import controls coupled with a reduction in oil exports produced a current account deficit last year.

Reimposition of import controls coupled with an increase in oil production should result in a move to an improved external position which will permit a renewed expansion of imports.

Agriculture

This sector is to continue to receive priority attention.

Petrochemicals

A total of 22 chemical plants will be established.

Ports and airports

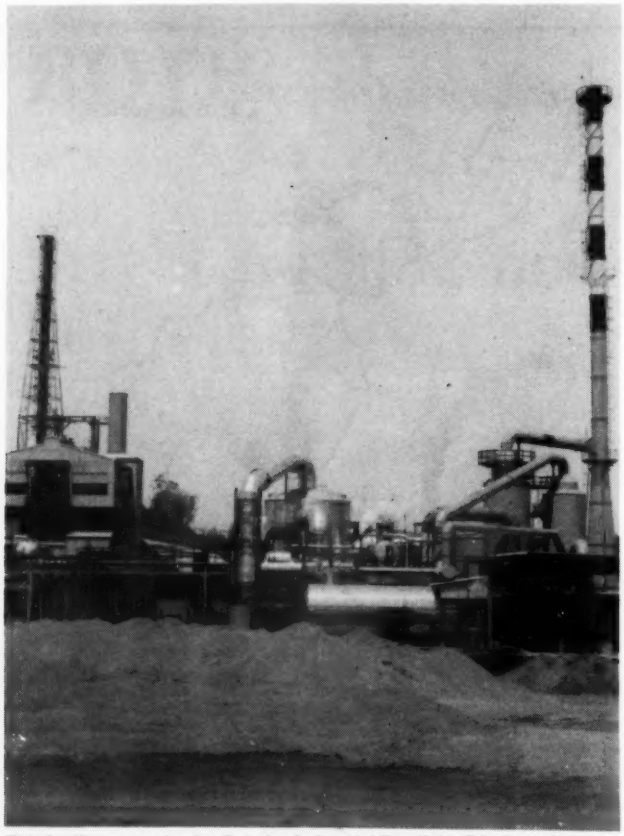
There are plans for expansion in this field.

Mineral resources

In Ecuador mineral resources are considerable but as yet untapped.

Colombia

Recent financial and fiscal changes in Colombia should provide a basis for steady expansion of the economy, provided that the progress already made in reducing inflation can be maintained without adding to unemployment. Reserves rose at the end of last year due to higher coffee prices, and, despite the loss of self sufficiency in oil, may well increase further in



This fertiliser complex for Quimica Industrial Brasileira SA, Jacupiranga, Brazil, has been built by Davy Powergas Ltd. of Baker Street, London.

1976. With continued diversification export prospects are reasonably good and measures to increase fiscal revenue should provide more funds for long-term development finance.

Coal and mineral reserves
Colombia's reserves are large and mining is a government priority sector.

Hydroelectricity
Plans are tentatively being considered for 21 plants.

Refining
The capacity of the refining industry is to be developed and petrochemicals are to be produced.

Other areas of development include transport, telecommunications, the textile industry and urban development in the capital.

Peru

A large trade deficit has developed in Peru following expansionary home policies and a fall in receipts from copper and other commodities. Although reserves remain low, the pressure should ease somewhat with the ending of the world recession and the help of the introduction of measures to deflate internal demand.

Increased production of copper should improve the situation during 1977. In 1978 Peru should become self-sufficient in oil. Mining of natural resources, fisheries, agriculture, petrochemicals, textiles and ports and shipbuilding are all development areas.

Cuba

Cuba cannot be readily judged by normal yardsticks, but non-communist source imports at around $1 million is justification for increasing interest in this market.

Development plans are likely to include diversification of the economy away from sugar towards industrialisation. Cuba should have little difficulty in borrowing on the Euro market and has an excellent record for payment of her convertible currency debt.

Ports
The modernisation of Cuba's ports and building up the merchant fleet has top priority.

Tourism
Tourism development includes the building of a series of hotels.

Nickel
Production is to be expanded and substantial deposits of other minerals may be developed.

Sugar
Four new sugar port terminals are to be built and some older mills may require renovating.

Chile

An eventual upturn in copper prices should benefit Chile, but future foreign earnings are heavily mortgaged to finance the foreign debt. If government policy to reduce inflation and the external deficit is successful, Chile could become a more attractive market by 1980.

Bolivia

Already a small net exporter of oil, Bolivia expects substantial new discoveries. Despite considerable inflows of capital the debt service ratio is favourable enough to permit further borrowings.

Economic management is responsible and, although the market is still small, there is pressing need for investment in infrastructure and industry; this presages a significant expansion of opportunities.

Agriculture
Developments should provide opportunities in irrigation projects and cattle farming.

Mining
Activity in the copper, lead, zinc, antimony, tungsten and gold fields is to be intensified, while later there will be further developments for coal and iron ore.

Petroleum
Exploration for gas and petroleum and the construction of new refineries are envisaged.

Electricity
Four major hydroelectric schemes are planned.

Uruguay

Some progress is offsetting the severe effects of the oil price rise and the EEC's ban on beef imports is being made in Uruguay. Import regulations have been eased, but this small market is unlikely to expand until after 1978 when new hydroelectric power will start to reduce oil imports.

Equipment will be required for hydroelectric power projects and in the agriculture and fishing industries.

Work in progress on a £50 million major steelworks extension project for Altos Hornos de Mexico SA at Monclova in the state of Coahuila in Mexico. The contract for the design, engineering, construction and commissioning of new ironmaking, steelmaking and continuous casting plant was awarded in 1974 to Davy Ashmore International Ltd. of Stockton-on-Tees, one of this year's winners of a Queen's Award for Export Achievement (see page 196)

Paraguay

Import requirements are small but these could expand after completion of the two hydroelectric plants being built in conjunction with Brazil and Argentina.

Equipment will be required for hydroelectric power projects and for the woodworking and sugar industries.

Central America

Countries in Central America are characterised by a rather weak external position but they generally have a good payments record.

Panama deserves special mention. Although her reserves are low, she should benefit increasingly from the growth of her position as an international financial centre and the completion of export-orientated projects. Later there will be the exploitation of the major Cerro Colorado copper deposits.

Andean Pact countries

As a group, the Andean Pact countries should be watched, in particular because of the developing pressures to relax the investment regulations. Bolivia, Chile and to some extent Ecuador already appear willing to permit a liberal interpretation of these rules.

The outlook

Despite the economic difficulties which some countries are currently experiencing, the medium-term outlook for Latin America as a whole appears reasonably bright, especially in the light of the relatively favourable oil situation in the area.

With the prospect of increased earnings in a rather more settled world economy, there are many countries and sectors which offer excellent opportunities for sales of, in particular, specialised capital goods, and some whose future looks sufficiently secure to warrant close consideration of joint ventures, especially Brazil, Mexico and Bolivia, which are making strong efforts to attract foreign investment capital and where restrictions are relatively few.

With an increased awareness of the importance of stable and assured supplies of raw materials, the industrialised world is beginning to pay much closer attention to Latin America as a trading partner, and the UK Government has intensified its political and economic contacts with Latin America during the last year. If the UK is not to lose out to its main European and Japanese competitors in this area, determined efforts to follow up the political lead will be required and should yield well worthwhile results.

Have you a good export picture?

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news.

Send your export photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Exhibitions and Fairs

British Technology for Malaysia Exhibition: the

by J A Cole-Morgan, British Overseas Trade Board

'I have achieved more here in three days than I could have in many years of sending people to Malaysia on an *ad hoc* basis,' said Mr. C. K. Howe of Ebonestos Industries Ltd., an exhibitor at the British Technology for Malaysia Exhibition which closed in Kuala Lumpur on 12 April.

The exhibition, which was sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and organised by Industrial and Trade Fairs International Ltd., was the largest of its type ever to be staged in south-east Asia, and was by any standards a roaring success. When it closed 132,050 people, at least 10 per cent of whom were trade buyers, had passed through the gates, and of the 400 tons of equipment and machinery worth £1.2 million displayed, exporters reported sales of exhibits totalling £800,000 and sales under negotiation of £5¼ million.

Despite the long hours – the exhibition was open until 10 pm every night – in sauna bath conditions, the atmosphere was buoyant and perhaps, under the influence of the Malaysian's inherent happiness and warmth towards the British people, seasoned exporters accustomed to the rigours of international trade fairs were even more enthusiastic than usual.

Trade between Malaysia and the UK has grown considerably in recent years, reflecting the increasing strength of the Malaysian economy and the relevance of UK products.

Royal opening

HRH the Duke of Kent in his opening remarks on Monday, 5 April said that he had been asked why the British had not staged such an exhibition before: a sentiment echoed many times during the event. Indeed, the Malaysian Government gave their whole hearted co-operation to the exhibition which was attended by the Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Hussein Onn who was met by Eric Deakins, then the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Trade, a number of other Malaysian Ministers and members of the Malaysian Royal Families. As His Excellency Sir Eric Norris High Commissioner for Malaysia said, the event was being looked on by many Malaysians as a significant demonstration of continuing British interest in the country's well-being and development.

All things being equal, the Malaysians are inclined to buy British and put considerable emphasis on quality for which they are prepared to pay a premium.

In a marathon tour of each of the 120 stands displaying the wares of 365 British manufacturers, a feat not achieved by many, the Duke of Kent met British businessmen and Malaysian distributors, dealers and agents working side by side in a harmony of first-name terms and complete understanding. He saw, as did the Malaysian visitors, the products of British technology in many fields, from hospital equipment to laboratory apparatus, and from the finest of British motorcars and automotive parts to machine tools and woodworking equipment.

Many significant orders

Many of the manufacturers took significant orders. British Leyland sold a number of Jaguars including the new XJS, as well as other less glamorous vehicles. Fords were doing a brisk business in Escorts and in commercial vehicles. Cambridge Instruments' scanning electron microscope was sold before the show opened and was the third to be sold in Malaysia. Keeping fingers off and polish on the Rolls Royce Silver Shadow – also sold before the show opened – so that it would be in perfect condition for its new proud owner posed many problems for the security guards.

A large proportion of the exhibitors were well established in the Malaysian market and came to wave the flag and to confirm their presence. Others were looking for the right dealers or agents. Whatever their purpose, the care with which manufacturers generally had chosen their products to suit the market was a subject of much favourable comment and reflected well on their own research and, in cases where they were in the market for the first time, on the help and advice of the commercial staff of the High Commission.

Designs for small to medium firms

Many manufacturers had taken to the exhibition not the most sophisticated models of their range but the models designed for small and medium size enterprises in the intermediate technology category. For example, the Colchester Chipmaster Lathe on the George Cohen stand was fitted with a hydraulic copying attachment rather than the more advanced numerically controlled attachment. John Wilson, managing director of George Cohen (Far East) said that the company was selling the more sophisticated machinery to the educational establishments and anticipated being able to sell numerically-controlled machines into the manufacturing market in Malaysia within five years.

Wherever there were small bench tools or hand tools, particularly for woodworking, one could be sure of a crowd. A typical sale of woodworking machinery was made by H. G. Bucknell, sales director of Multico, on the Scott and English stand, who sold a mortising machine and a radial crosscut saw to a small Malaysian furniture manufacturer, Lim Soon, who with his brother employs six people. The two machines cost a total of £1,500 and Lim Soon said that it would increase the production of the factory by 20 per cent.

On the consumer side, cars and car accessories were obvious attractions. Of particular interest were safety harness and children's safety seats. New legislation is expected on car safety in Malaysia and several manufacturers said they were making good sales in this area.

During evenings when the exhibition was free to all, one could hardly move along the aisles between the stands and outside the Rediffusion stand, one came to a complete stop, the avenue being blocked by young Malaysians entranced by colour television which most of them were seeing for the first time. No doubt they were thinking how nice it will be when, as is hoped, in two years time colour television is launched in Malaysia.

The serious side of marketing

The serious business of marketing the equipment that will be required to activate the Third Malaysia Plan was going on all over Kuala Lumpur and indeed all over Malaysia throughout the week with good results. For example, on the third day of the show Aveling-Barford Ltd. announced that they had sold five motor graders for road grading and two road rollers and that they certainly anticipated selling more as tenders for the Third Malaysia Plan went out.

Exporting might not be fun but under these conditions can be exciting!

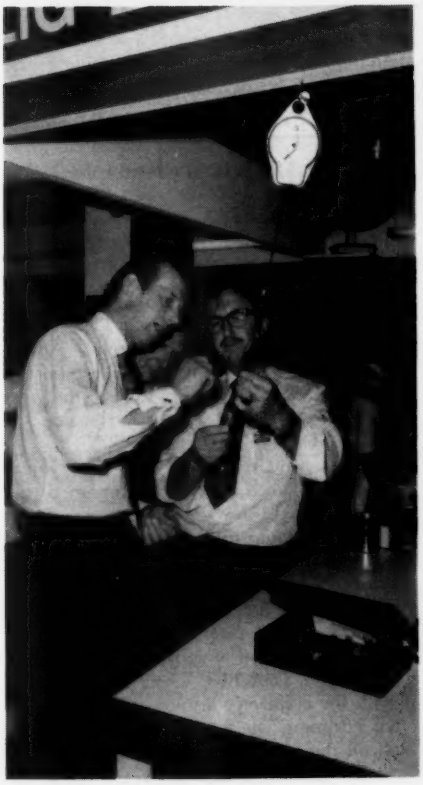
Top left : The Duke of Kent talking to Mr. R. Toft, sales director of Denford Machine Tools of Brighouse, Yorkshire, about the company's short bed wood turning lathe which they were demonstrating at the exhibition.

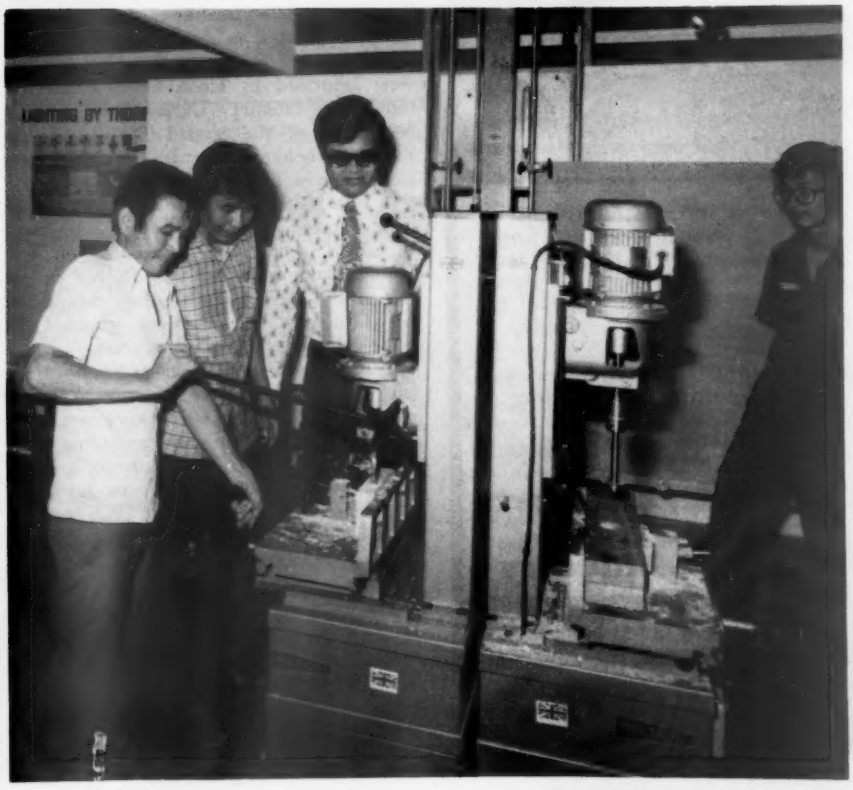
Top right : young Malaysians entranced by colour television on the Rediffusion stand.

Bottom left : the Duke of Kent with George Tulip, area manager for Desoutter on the company's stand.

Bottom right : Lim Soon (left) trying out the Multico mortising machine he had just bought at the exhibition.

right products, the right market, the right time





Three trade promotions in Japan

Dormant phase in boating industry coming to an end

From John MacDonald, First Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Tokyo: The 15th Tokyo International Boat Show on 1-5 April had 'Sun and Sea' as its theme this year – an unfortunate choice, as four of the five days of the exhibition were marked by unseasonably cold winds and rain. Perhaps as a result, the overall attendance of 46,975 was down on last year. However, according to the organisers, the Japan Boating Industry Association (JBIA), the proportion of trade visitors attending was well up in comparison with previous exhibitions.

Prominent among the 59 stands manned by 73 exhibitors was the British Ship and Boat Building National Federation stand, a joint venture with the BOTB. The SBBNF/BOTB stand was the only national one at the exhibition.

Exhibits on the British stand ranged from a large selection of boats shown by Avon Inflatables Ltd., and boating and yachting clothing displayed by Henri-Lloyd Ltd., Peter Storm (Japan) Ltd., Edward MacBean and Co. Ltd. and Jack Holt Ltd., to marine accessories and equipment shown by Y. S. Fittings Ltd. and Simpson Lawrence Ltd. A number of UK companies exhibited on their agents' stands,

In addition to the exhibitors, the British leisure boat industry was well represented by a group of 16 members on the SBBNF outward mission to Japan, timed to coincide with the Tokyo Boat Show.

The unique opportunity provided by the show to meet leading members of the Japanese boating world was well appreciated and Albert Cork, the SBBNF co-ordinator for the mission and boat show, commented that although little immediate business had resulted, his members were well satisfied, and were looking forward to participating in the similar event planned for next year.

The Japanese boating industry has been passing through a dormant phase over the last two years. That this trend is coming to an end is evidenced by the fact that a number of major Japanese companies are diversifying into the leisure boat industry, with particular emphasis on good quality products powered by smaller engines than in the past.

The British presence in the Japanese boating world has in the main been marked by the use of British designs and by the supply of marine accesories and fittings, rather than the finished product, but the interest expressed in the Avon Inflatable Boats and the Dunhill dinghy at this fair is a pointer to the scope that exists for direct exports. Even now, there are only 100,000 pleasure boats to serve the 111 million population of Japan.

The potential for expansion is therefore great and the reputation for quality enjoyed by the British boating industry should stand them in good stead in their efforts to make further in-roads into the Japanese market, the size of which has been estimated at Y35 billion (£64 million).

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A great potential market for carpets

From R. S. Howe, First Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Tokyo: 'Japan offers the greatest potential for British carpets of any market in the world.' This was the view expressed by Colin Croft, managing director of Homfray Carpets Ltd., at the conclusion of the second British Carpets Exhibition held at the British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo from 23-27 March.

A total of 13 of Britain's leading carpet manufacturers took part in the exhibition, where they concluded £358,000 of new business and estimated that further orders valued at £1,270,000 will follow during the next 12 months. The exhibition attracted 660 trade visitors during its five-day run.

The Japanese carpet market has not been left unscathed by the economic recession which led to a drastic 60 per cent decline in total imports of carpets and rugs during 1975. However, imports from Britain declined by only 17 per cent, whilst those from our major European competitors and the USA bore the main brunt of the setback. At the same time, Britain's market share improved from 5.7 per cent in 1974 to 11.7 in 1975.

The excellent results achieved at the exhibition indicate a growing confidence on the part of the Japanese trade of an impending up-swing in the economy, and the British carpet industry is well placed to take full advantage of the opportunities which will follow.

While recognising the excellent potential of the market, all the British exhibitors were agreed on the need to keep up the pressure in order to realise the potential and are already planning to rent the export marketing centre and mount a further exhibition in 1977 on a private basis.

British fashion designer's success

A result of the recent BOTB-supported outward mission by the Westminster Chamber of Commerce to Japan (19 March-3 April), was, for one fashion designer, the prospect of £15,000 worth of business during the next 12 months, a notable contribution to Britain's 'invisible' exports.

'Gloria', who designs textiles and young fashions for both sexes, accompanied the mission on its 14-day visit to Japan and met buyers throughout the country. Among those companies she saw were her regular contractors, Teijin and Royal, for whom she designs fabrics for men's shirts and fabrics and garments for girls' blouses and dresses, GTO, who specialise in sportswear, and a new contact, Daitohbo, whose main concern is with the children's fashion market.

In addition, she had discussions with C. Itoh on the possibility of expanding into the Japanese interior design market.

Quality counts at Munich fashion week

From W. R. Jupe, Vice-consul (Commercial), Munich: Fifty British companies took part in the Munich fashion week which took place, for the 33rd time, from 28 March to 1 April in the Munich fairgrounds, and in many hotels and fashion houses within the city. A total of 1,660 exhibitors from 29 countries and over 53,000 visitors were attracted to the week. The UK again took fourth place among the foreign exhibitors behind Italy, France and Austria. Thirty-nine of the British firms co-operated in a joint venture organised by the Clothing Export Council and the BOTB.

It was plain from early on the first day that there were more buyers in the aisles than in previous years, and for most of the British joint venture participants the best business was written early in the week. It was also evident, however, that many regular buyers were only in Munich to see what was on offer and many stated that they would not be committing themselves to firm orders until the Paris fashion week. Nonetheless, an encouraging volume of orders was taken by the British firms, not only from traditional Austrian and Swiss customers but also increasingly from German buyers.

Many of our firms felt that there was an increasing interest in British products emerging, although price remained less important to the fashion conscious Germans than quality and style. An indication of this was the enthusiasm with which real furs were received, while imitation furs generally did badly. For example, Fantasia Furs' first order on the opening day was from an Austrian customer who doubled his last year's order. The rest of the week proved no less successful for Fantasia who did so much business that they will be unable to accept further orders this year.

Kilts were again in great demand by customers from all over Europe, particularly those in the European community. Both Clan Laird and F. J. Bacon recorded tremendous success. Huguette Benjamin's stand was at times so crowded that there was just not enough room for the buyers, so great was the demand for Huguette Lurex dresses. Leathers (both nappa and suede) also proved to be much sought-after, as was denim wear.

Although inevitably there were a few British firms (particularly some newcomers) who were disappointed with their performance at Munich, almost all joint venture participants felt that their attendance had been worthwhile and said that they would return in the future. It was felt that the Munich Mode Woche is becoming more and more important as an international event. The next takes place from 3-7 October, 1976.

Mr. Chippeck of Fantasia Furs talking with a customer at the Munich fashion week.

International gas turbine conference in New Orleans

From D. J. Soberry, Commercial Officer, Houston: American and British firms dominated the exhibition at the 21st annual International Gas Turbine Conference sponsored by the Gas Turbine and Fluids Engineering Divisions of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers at the Rivergate in New Orleans 21-25 March 1976. A total of 10 British firms participated in a joint venture with the BOTB and the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers Association Ltd.

This year the exhibition was smaller with 98 firms occupying 22,500 sq. ft, compared with 119 firms and 30,000 sq. ft last year in Houston. However the quality was at least maintained if not improved and this is the established conference and exhibition for the gas turbine industry.

The British joint venture exhibit presented the visitors with a unified series of booths that were situated towards the centre of the hall. The stands were attractive and easily identified, besides having good illumination and sufficient seating arrangements for visitors wishing to talk at length with the exhibitors. Two British firms participated outside the joint venture, while only three firms from outside the US and UK took part.

A full technical programme ran simultaneously with the exhibition for the duration of the conference. As a forum for presenting papers and discussing technical situations in panels and workshops, the conference continues to be a valuable annual event. Numerous British experts presented papers and took part in the technical programme including two participants from Lucas Aerospace, who also exhibited.

Nearly all participants at this year's show agreed with the positive value of the Gas Turbine Conference for their firms, particularly in the long run. The demand for gas turbines in industrial, marine and aero applications should continue to increase and the conference provides an excellent sounding board for technical innovations and the provision of specialist market information.

The British exhibitors felt the conference allowed them a unique chance to speak with a great number of their customers under one roof and in a short time. They were pleased with the response to their products and consider their time spent at the Gas Turbine Conference to have been worthwhile.

The 1977 Gas Turbine Conference will be held in Philadelphia from 27-31 March and most of the British exhibitors have already applied for space again.

Intherm's joint venture participants well satisfied

From F. J. Martin, Vice Consul (Commercial), Stuttgart: Never before in its 15 years of being had Intherm – the international trade fair for oil/gas firing, heating and airconditioning equipment – attracted so many foreign exhibitors. In all some 400 firms representing 17 nations participated at this the 11th Intherm exhibition on 20 March in Stuttgart. Britain was the only one of the foreign participants to have an officially sponsored stand, organised by the Birmingham Engineering and Building Centre in co-operation with BOTB.

There were six firms which availed themselves of the joint venture scheme and all were extremely satisfied with the results of their participation. Indeed a few pointed out that the interest shown in their products had exceeded their expectations and two firms had to frantically telex back to their parent companies for more literature. Of the six joint venture exhibitors, three were using Intherm '76 as a means of locating potential German agents and all three were pleased to report that they had been inundated with applications for franchise agreements, not just from the FRG but also from the Far and Middle East as well as other west European countries.

Joule Manufacturing were asked by a visitor to make a quotation for a heating project estimated be to worth DM 100,000. They also received an interesting inquiry from Ruhrgas – Germany's largest gas supply company.

Wellman Selas were going to embark on a tour of Germany immediately after the close of Intherm to follow up those leads and expressions of interest secured at the event. At least one firm order was placed for proportioning valves worth £1,000.

All of the joint venture members remarked that they would seriously consider returning to Intherm in 1978 but some would prefer to have the joint venture stand re-sited in Hall 6. There is every possibility that this wish may be realised but only if applications for participation are received well in advance of the fair authorities' closing date.

BOTB News

US Government and industry engineers attending a presentation given by Ricardo Consulting Engineers of Shoreham-on-Sea, Sussex, at the Rotunda of the British Embassy in Washington DC. The Rotunda is available in appropriate cases to British exporters who wish to use it for promotional purposes, such as the introduction of new equipment or technology, or as a meeting ground for American customers. Commercial officers in the Embassy will help British firms to use the facilities to the best advantage. Written inquiries about the possibilities of using the Rotunda should be made direct to the Commercial Department, British Embassy, Washington DC 20068 and a copy sent to GESB, Section 11, Room 003, Export House, 500 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU where information and a plan may be obtained.

Pictured admiring the futuristic garments designed by students of the Royal College of Art and worn by models of the 'Magic in Fashion '76' show at the British International Fashion Fair, held in Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre from 7-10 April, are members of a clothing-buying mission from Switzerland. The Swiss buyers visited this country as guests of the Clothing Export Council and the British Overseas Trade Board.

Visit of Soviet Minister for Chemical Industry

Leonid Kostandov, Soviet Minister for the Chemical Industry, visited the Department of Trade recently during a 10-day visit to the UK as guest of the British Government. He was welcomed by Peter Shore, then Secretary of State for Trade, who referred to the inquiries for major chemical projects in the USSR which a number of British firms had received in recent months.

Mr. Shore emphasised that the British chemical industry was one of the strongest sectors of the British economy, with a high level of exports. He was confident that British firms could play a significant part in the expansion of the Soviet chemical industry foreshadowed in the Soviet five-year plan.

During his visit, Mr. Kostandov visited several companies, called on Lord Kearton, chairman of the East European Trade Council, and was entertained by the Confederation of British Industry and the Muscovite Society.

Tokyo waste disposal exhibition – correction

In our recent supplement 'Into Japan', the Process Plant Association was listed as the sponsor of an exhibition of waste disposal equipment in Tokyo in September 1977. We now understand that the PPA is not in fact involved in the exhibition in question, the sponsorship of which remains to be settled.

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Trade Indemnity

Points from Mr. K. M. Bevins' Statement to Shareholders on the report, accounts and balance sheet for the year ended 31st December 1975.

Results and Dividend

The Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1975 largely reflect the outcome of the 1973 Underwriting Account, which was closed on that date, and which was substantially influenced by conditions in 1973 and 1974. It was a highly satisfactory Account and produced an underwriting profit of £1,958,004 – the highest in our history. To the underwriting profit there has to be added investment income of £554,117. Tax amounted to £1,183,000, leaving a net profit of £1,329,121. A final dividend of 4.33572 pence per share is recommended, taking the total of dividends paid and proposed to £246,086, the maximum permitted by Government legislation.

Underwriting Accounts

In 1975 gross premiums written on all Accounts increased to £12,949,647 (1974 – £10,146,422). Of this, our business in Australia contributed £1,034,262, representing an increase over 1974 of 34.8%. Premiums on the 1974 Account are still running ahead of the 1973 Account and, despite a quite considerable increase in claims, the balance is healthy and a favourable result is still expected. Premiums on the 1975 Account were well ahead of the 1974 Account at the same stage but claims increased too.

1975 in Retrospect

It will surprise no-one to be told that 1975 was for us a difficult year and, of course, many of the problems which we faced are with us yet. Nevertheless, in view of the seriousness of the economic difficulties, we might very well have expected to have fared much worse than in fact we did. The Company's business is sensitive to the varying forces at work within the economy, one effect of which was that the value of turnover underwritten increased by 8% only to a total of £6,515 million.

The widespread lack of business confidence in 1975 led to an unusually high demand for cover from new clients and the value of new business added to our portfolio was a record. The terms on which we were prepared to take such risks inevitably reflected the deepening recession and a selective approach was essential. Nevertheless, we have shown that even in such conditions we can provide credit insurance on reasonable terms for the benefit of industry and commerce.

Outlook

As business failures seem likely to remain somewhere near their present level for most of 1976, I have no doubt that the demand for the services offered by Trade Indemnity will continue to grow in the year ahead. Increases in wholesale and raw material prices may be expected once again to contribute to our premium earnings, whilst restocking and, later in the year, a revival in industrial output should provide an additional impetus.

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European Community News

Disappointing outcome of development council for UK

The EEC development council on 8 April was not a fruitful meeting. Particularly disappointing for the UK was the lack of agreement to spend 20 million units of account for non-associates, put into the 1976 community budget at the insistence of the European assembly and with support from the budget council.

The council also failed to reach agreement on a community contribution to the international fund for agricultural development (IFAD); the French, in a minority of one, were opposed to this. Nor was there agreement on spending a budget provision of 2.5 mua for EEC coordination in the aid field with non-governmental organisations. There was a first reading of German proposals on harmonisation and coordination of member states' bilateral policies, and the commission will make further proposals on this issue for consideration at the next development council.

Harmonisation

Introducing the German paper, Egon Bahr, the West German Minister for Economic Cooperation, reminded his colleagues of the German link between progress towards harmonisation and 'worldwide community aid' (ie aid to non-associates). He admitted that the harmonisation objective could not be reached at once, not that it implied the end of bilateral aid. But he called on the commission to make an operational proposal for a stage-by-stage plan.

Representing the UK, John Grant, Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Overseas Development, said the proposals should go to the working group which should work out a stage-by-stage plan and agree, at any rate, on a minimum programme. But, Mr. Grant welcomed a pragmatic approach, and said the aim of complete integration could only be considered in the context of the Tindemans' proposals and was linked to the proposal for a common foreign policy.

Mr. Grant said the UK was prepared to study the possibility of coordination in particular areas, such as paid technical assistance. It might also be possible to consider community consultation with existing consortia and consultative groups and, in specific cases, any multilateral bodies. But he pointed out that the community must be careful to allay suspicions of ganging up against developing countries.

Aid to non-associates

Despite the positive stance taken by the UK on the German proposals for harmonisation, Herr Bahr maintained German opposition to spending the 20 mua for non-associates. The French, ignoring efforts over the last two years to construct a community policy embracing the poorest and most populous developing countries not eligible for association, unhelpfully suggested that all of the 20 mua be given as emergency aid to the Lebanon.

Mr. Grant said the UK believed it essential to reach agreement on the 20 mua, but that this was a laughably small amount and must be seen as the first stage in an on-going programme of community aid for the non-Associates. On spending the 20 mua, he backed the commission's proposal for direct community action in the field, but was opposed to diverting any of this already modest amount to disaster relief, although aid for emergency reconstruction could be considered in the context of an expanded programme.

Food labelling: draft directive goes to council

The labelling, presentation and advertising of food was the subject of a recent draft directive put forward to the council by the commission. The field of application of the directive is confined solely to the final consumer of prepacked food.

The application of the directive implies changes in the legislation of the member states all of whom have existing legislation on this subject. In the UK's case there are differences between the proposed directive and current labelling requirements and in some areas UK requirements are not paralleled in the directive.

The directive attempts to meet two main objectives – uniform requirements relating to the prohibition of fraud and the supply of information on labels, and removal of barriers to trade. It includes proposals for labelling, such as the name of the food, a full list of ingredients, the net quantity of the food, a date of minimum durability, information on special conditions concerning storage and use and, where appropriate, particulars of the place of origin or provenance.

The directive requires that in the list of ingredients water must be mentioned, with the exception of certain cases, such as when water is only used to return an ingredient to its original form after it has been concentrated or dehydrated.

The directive is still in draft form and likely to be the subject of a good deal of discussion and representation by the member states before it can be agreed. When this has been done member states will modify their own legislation where necessary so that, two years after the directive is agreed, retail trade in prepacked food which conforms will be permitted throughout the community. The sale of prepacked food which does not conform three years after the directive is agreed will be prohibited. Food shown to be intended for export from the Nine will be exempt.

There has already been wide consultation with trade, consumer and enforcement organisations by the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food and other interested departments during the preparation of the draft and this will be continued.

EEC and Brazil reach agreement on textiles

An agreement on trade in textile products between the EEC and Brazil under Article 4 of the Gatt multi-fibre arrangement was initialled on 1 April.

The agreement, which covers bilateral trade in textiles during 1976 and 1977 and comes into effect from 1 January this year, establishes community ceilings for four product categories: cotton yarn; woven fabrics of cotton, unbleached and bleached; other woven cotton fabrics; and cotton household linens.

Details of the agreement will be published shortly in *Trade and Industry*.

Building industry in France

A guide to the French Building Industry by the quantity surveyors division of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors is now available from the RIC's publications department.

Entitled 'The French Building Industry', the study is the result of several years' intensive research by a team of chartered quantity surveyors in France. It is designed as a guide to help any firm seeking to expand operations to France as well as those already working there and covers all major aspects of the industry, from the role of consultants to research, testing and other associated activities, contracts and tendering procedures.

The guide which was recently launched in London will also be launched at the British Embassy in Paris on Thursday 29 April.

New community proposals for the commercial driver

The Commission has put forward new proposals covering the hours and conditions of work for drivers of goods and passenger vehicles. They are designed to simplify, replace and supplement legislation based on Regulation 543/69.

This regulation does not yet apply to internal road transport in the UK, where the new proposals will therefore be of special interest. Britain currently operates a 10 hour driving day and, for example, has no daily distance limit for heavy goods vehicles.

The proposals are now before the European parliament and the economic and social committee, before being discussed by the council of ministers. The commission would like all the provisions of the new regulation to come into force by 1 February 1977.

The new proposals are based on experience and long consultation with representatives of the road industry in all the member states.

The aims however, remain the same – to raise the social conditions of workers in the industry, to improve road safety and to equalise the conditions of competition.

There are four major innovations. Firstly, provided a tachograph is in operation, the double control for heavy vehicles on single-man driving over time and distance (eight hours and 450km) is abolished. The previous distance limit of 450km (280 miles) a solo driver may do is lifted. Control is now concentrated on hours at work and behind the wheel.

The proposals also introduce the notion of 'spreadover', defined as meaning for each crew member the period falling between the start and end of work. It is proposed that, in general, a spreadover should not exceed 12 hours at a time and 60 hours a week. The week is now defined as from Sunday to Saturday. Spreadover includes all the time from the initial start of work on duties other than driving, including breaks and driving, to signing off.

The third innovation provides that the time spent by any one driver behind the wheel should not exceed 8 hours within a spreadover. This period may, however, be increased up to nine hours in a spreadover twice a week provided that the maximum permitted driving period over a week or fortnight is maintained. From 1 January 1979 the total time spent behind the wheel may in no case exceed 46 hours in any one week.

Finally there is provision for member states, after proper consultation, to grant exceptions to the regulation for the carriage of farm produce for short distance traffic in certain circumstances and in emergency situations.

The new proposals attempt a considerable social advance with the introduction of rules allowing 10 spreadovers a fortnight, a break of 40 consecutive hours a week and 28 days annual and public holidays.

Spreadover and rest periods

Although the spreadover of every crew member of goods vehicles manned by one driver (or two drivers without a bunk) should not exceed 12 hours, to allow for flexibility the spreadover can be prolonged up to two hours where the crew extend normal breaks. Furthermore drivers of regular service passenger vehicles may have a spreadover of 14 hours twice a week, so long as these are not operated on consecutive days. The total hours worked per week, however, must not exceed 60 hours. For irregular passenger services such as coach tours, this may be extended to 65 hours a week.

Subject to specific exceptions, crews must have a minimum rest period of 11 hours which must be taken outside the vehicle or in a stationery one if a bunk is provided. Every crew member must normally have 40 consecutive hours rest a week.

Driving periods and breaks

The new proposals simplify, but do not greatly alter, the earlier regulation for the driver. But it is made clear that the time any one driver may spend actually behind the wheel is eight hours subject to a statutory 30 minute break within 4½ hours. This has particular new significance for drivers of delivery vehicles who spend much of their time during the spreadover away from the wheel. For convenience the driver may take two or three shorter breaks within the prescribed period than 30 minutes.

At present in no case must a driver be at the wheel for more than 48 hours in any one week or 92 hours in a fortnight. As noted, from 1 January 1979, it is proposed that these hours should be reduced to a maximum of 46 hours a week.

Authorised exceptions,

The commission proposes that it should be possible to authorise variation in the provisions for spreadover and rest periods so long as they are compensated and provided there is agreement with the commission and both sides of industry.

Public service vehicles, for instance, in the employ of public authorities and not engaged in competition on the transport market are exempt.

The transport of farm produce within a radius of 50km (about 30 miles) may be exempted and for other short-distance traffic within the same radius, methods of record-keeping laid down in the regulation may be relaxed if an approved national-type tachograph is in operation. In both cases, however, the welfare of drivers must be safeguarded.

Member states may also claim exemption in case of emergency, in consultation of course with the commission. All passenger vehicles with up to 12 seats including that of the driver, used for private purposes are exempt from the regulation (this exempts mini-buses) as are public service vehicles mentioned above, circus vehicles, mobile libraries and itinerant markets.

The tachograph

The new proposals in no way alter the desire of the commission to see the application of council Regulation 1463/70 of 20 July 1970 which requires all goods and passenger motor vehicles to install recording equipment (tachographs) by 1 January 1978 and currently for all new vehicles and those carrying dangerous goods.

In order to save time and money the proposals suggest that the commission report progress to the council of ministers every two years in future instead of annually as now.

EEC readaptation grant for steel workers

A readaptation grant of £105,000 has been allocated by the EEC to workers at the Patent Shaft Steel Works, Wednesbury, in the West Midlands where a number of men are being made redundant.

The Patent Shaft Steel Works, which is a subsidiary of the Laird Group, operates in the private sector of the steel industry and produces steel plates, bars and sections for the UK market. The company is now in the process of closing down four 100 tonnes-capacity open hearth furnaces.

The grant is made under Article 56 (2) b of the European Coal and Steel Community Treaty and will provide about half of the total estimated readaptation aid for the men affected by the closures.

It brings the total ECSC funds allocated to providing readaptation aid for redundant UK steel workers since January 1973 to about £3.5 million.

More on the EEC

Information on EEC matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of 'Trade and Industry'. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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New EC legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*:

Processed agricultural products. Regulation (EEC) 690/76 determining the amounts of the variable components, compensatory amounts and additional duties applicable during the second quarter of 1976 on the importation of goods covered by Regulation (EEC) 1059/69 (*Official Journal* L87, 1 April 1976).

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 778/76 amending Regulation (EEC) 685/69 on detailed rules of application for intervention on the market in butter and cream (*Official Journal* L91, 6 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 789/76 on the supply of skimmed-milk powder from public stock to undertakings in Italy for use in accordance with Regulation (EEC) 563/76 (*Official Journal* L92, 7 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 796/76 amending Regulation (EEC) 986/68 with respect to the granting of aid for denatured skimmed-milk powder (*Official Journal* L93, 8 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 804/76 amending Regulation (EEC) 990/72 as regards certain detailed rules for the denaturing of skimmed-milk powder and the conditions governing its incorporation into compound feedingstuffs (*Official Journal* L93, 8 April 1976).

Cattle, beef and veal. Regulation (EEC) 785/76 amending Regulation (EEC) 221/72 as regards the qualifying date for the take over of intervention beef meat for which the maximum tolerance for weight losses resulting from storage applies (*Official Journal* L92, 7 April 1976).

Applications for copies of the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.

Regulation (EEC) 797/76 authorising member states to grant a premium on the slaughter of certain adult bovine animals intended for slaughter during the 1976/77 marketing year (*Official Journal* L93, 8 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 803/76 laying down detailed rules for the granting of a slaughter premium for procedures of bovine animals during the 1976/77 marketing year (*Official Journal* L93, 8 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 824/76 deferring the qualifying date in respect of beef put up for sale by the intervention agencies under Regulation (EEC) 2320/74 (*Official Journal* L94, 9 April 1976).

Fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 793/76 amending Regulation (EEC) 1035/72 on the common organisation of the market in fruit and vegetables and Regulation (EEC) 2511/69 laying down special measures for improving the production and marketing of community citrus fruit (*Official Journal* L93, 8 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 794/76 laying down further measures for reorganising community fruit production (*Official Journal* L93, 8 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 795/76 supplementing Annex I to Regulation (EEC) 1035/72 on the common organisation of the market in fruit and vegetables (*Official Journal* L93, 8 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 843/76 applying quality class 'III' to certain fruit for the 1976/77 marketing year (*Official Journal* L96, 10 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 844/76 amending the common quality standards for strawberries (*Official Journal* L96, 10 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 845/76 amending the common quality standards for cucumbers (*Official Journal* L96, 10 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 846/76 amending the common quality standards for peaches (*Official Journal* L96, 10 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 847/76 amending the common quality standards for table grapes (*Official Journal* L96, 10 April 1976).

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 798/76 amending Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) 567/76 laying down general rules governing the distillation of table wines for which the distillation contract must be approved before 15 April 1976 (*Official Journal* L93, 8 April 1976).

Fish and fish products. Regulation (EEC) 811/76 temporarily authorising certain systems of catch quotas in the fisheries sector (*Official Journal* L94, 9 April 1976).

Oils, fats and oilseeds. Regulation (EEC) 812/76 fixing for the 1976/77 marketing year the monthly increases in the target and intervention prices for oil seeds (*Official Journal* L94, 9 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 813/76 fixing the monthly increases in the market target price, the intervention price and the threshold price for olive oil in the 1976/77 marketing year (*Official Journal* L94, 9 April 1976).

Flax and hemp. Regulation (EEC) 814/76 amending Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) 1308/70 as regards the system of aid for flax (*Official Journal* L94, 9 April 1976).

Silk and silkworms. Regulation (EEC) 822/76 on the conditions and the procedures for the recognition of producer groups of silkworm rearers (*Official Journal* L94, 9 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 823/76 on detailed rules for supplementary aid to certain silkworm rearers (*Official Journal* L94, 9 April 1976).

European coal and steel community

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L89, 2 April 1976, contains the text of Decision 755/76/ECSC on the temporary postponement of the date of the payment of the steel production levy.

Further information: Department of Industry, Iron and Steel Division, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ, tel. 01-211 6626.

ACP/EEC Convention of Lomé

The *Official Journal* L85, 31 March 1976, contains the texts of the following:

Regulation [EEC] 706/76 on the arrangements applicable to agricultural products and certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products originating in the African, Caribbean and Pacific States or in the overseas countries and territories.

Decision 76/343/EEC on the interim measures applicable to the overseas countries and territories associated with the European economic community in matters of establishment, services, payments and capital movements.

Customs regulations

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L89, 2 April 1976, contains the texts of the following:

Regulation [EEC] 754/76 on the customs treatment applicable to goods returned to the customs territory of the community.

Directive 76/344/EEC implementing Directive 69/73/EEC as regards the repair of goods under inward processing arrangements.

Further information: HM Customs and Excise, International Customs Division H, Branches 3 and 4, Adelaide House, London Bridge, London EC4R 9DB, tel. 01-626 1515, Branch 4 ext. 2017 (Regulation (EEC) 754/76), Branch 3 ext. 2018 (Directive 76/344/EEC).

EEC/Malta agreement

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L81, 27 March 1976, contains the text of (1) Regulation (EEC) 666/76 concluding the agreement extending the provisions governing the first stage of the agreement establishing an association between the European economic community and Malta and (2) the agreement extending the provisions governing the first stage of the agreement establishing an association between the European economic community and Malta.

This agreement came into force on 1 April 1976 (*Official Journal* L86, 1 April 1976).

Choosing a business partner elsewhere in the community

The commission of the European communities set up the business co-operation centre to encourage co-operation between firms in different member states wishing to increase competitiveness and respond to the opportunities opened up by access to the community's markets. Co-operation is defined as pooling one or more activities of partner firms: for example, in research and development, supplies, production, marketing and sales and management.

A firm seeking the centre's help will be asked to provide certain information about itself, and to define exactly what type of partner and what type of co-operation it wants. All the information supplied, and any inquiries received, are treated as strictly confidential, and no names are revealed without the agreement of all parties. The centre will search its files for a suitable partner, and if, the application cannot be matched with an offer already registered, will, if the firm agrees, circulate a summary of the firm's requirements, with no names mentioned, to the 'correspondents' which it has in every country of the community.

It is as one of the centre's correspondents in this country that we reproduce the latest batch of requests for co-operation. Readers wishing to obtain further information should write direct to the centre at the following address, quoting the reference number of the request(s) in which they are interested: Business Co-operation Centre, rue Archimede 17, B-1040 Brussels. The centre makes no charge for its services.

Reference BRE/3721/325
French limited company manufacturing special machines for stone and marble working (70 per cent of the French market in their lines); complete equipment for earth preparation and manufacture of tiles, floor tiles and refractory products; certain machines for the treatment of sheepskins (de-burring, dewoolling and fleshing machines); turnover: FF 9 million, employees: 100; seeks business co-operation with British firms, who could be either a:

1 mechanical engineer who would take over sales and servicing and possibly manufacture certain parts of the machines produced by the French company;
2 a manufacturer of complementary equipment for brickworks, or;
3 a manufacturer of complementary equipment for the skins and leather industry;

in the two latter cases, the agreement could be for reciprocal marketing of products capable of developing into manufacturing arrangements.
Languages: French, English.

Reference BRE/3800/316
French company, various product ranges in stainless steel (sinks; apparatus for chemical and textile industries; dishes and tableware); turnover FF 55 million, 220 employees; holding international patent on new type of hydraulic detector safety valve (200 bar, 600 degrees C, non-destructive action, resistance to etching or heavy fluids; adopted by French and US Navies); seeks UK partner in steel or stainless steel working (eg taps, valves, etc., manufacturer) with a view to joint venture exploitation of the patent in the UK market.

Reference BRE/3756/3163
French limited company manufacturing and selling locks for wooden and metallic furniture, keys and keyplates, handles and knobs, hinges and other fitments, security padlocks and cylinder locks; turnover FF 6.5 million, 120 employees; seeks co-operation with a British firm in the same sector wishing to engage in reciprocal marketing of products. Manufacturing agreements are likewise possible. The French company would also consider being integrated into a group.
Languages: French, English, German.

Reference BRE/3809/453
French limited company manufacturing (and having manufacture by sub-contract) and marketing under its own branch name dressings, surgical and operating theatre garments to the surgical clinics and hospitals in France, turnover FF 19 million, 40 employees; seeks an association with a British manufacturer of other para-pharmaceutical products for operating theatres, the linen department or pharmacy of hospitals and clinics (eg impregnated or composite dressings; folded compresses, operating sets). The French firm would include the partner's products in its sales range. A participation in the equity by the partner is desired.
Languages: French, English.

Reference BRE/3871/326
French limited company manufacturing and marketing high and very high pressure hoses for hydraulic controls, with replaceable or crimped end pieces (75 per cent of turnover), hoses for washing machines and hoses for steam or chemical products; turnover FF 38 million of which 24 per cent exported, 185 employees (of which 110 in sales/marketing, etc.); wishes to co-operate with a British firm in the same sector or selling to the same clientele, who would take a financial participation (even minority, but with a medium-term of view complete acquisition of the French firm).
Languages: French, English, German, Italian.

Reference BRE/3779/255
Important Italian firm producing touch-up paints for vehicles, industrial paints, wood varnishes, anti-corrosive products (to a lesser extent, house paints) with about 1,400 employees (200 in research) and a turnover of £20 million, seeks partner in the United Kingdom. The partner should be in the same sector and well established in his own national market. The co-operation could take one of the following forms:

1 creation of a joint trading company in the partner's country;
2 reciprocal exchange of technology (the Italian firm is advanced in car paints and anti-corrosive sectors).

Languages: Italian, French, German.

Reference BRE/3676/463
Italian firm, producing for the market, prefabricated wooden houses (chalet type), also wood panelling and flooring, with 52 employees and a turnover of Lire 820 million, seeks a partner in Great Britain, of similar size with own sales network and able to carry out assembly construction work. The partner should market the Italian prefabricated houses (competitive in price) and could possibly incorporate his own products and services (eg doors and windows or interior equipment).
Languages: English, French, German.

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Eliminating technical barriers to trade within the EEC

Article 100: check-list of draft and adopted Directives in the industrial sector

Below we print the usual quarterly revision of our check-list showing the directives proposed, approved or adopted under Article 100 of the Treaty of Rome. The last list was published in *Trade and Industry* of 16 January 1976. A background article on elimination of technical barriers to trade appeared in the August 1974 issue of the *European Community Commentary*.

A word on terminology. A preliminary draft is really nothing more than a working document for commission working groups, and may appear in any number of revisions. A commission proposal is the final version of the draft as submitted by the commission to the council of ministers. It too may undergo revision as a result of representations by member states at council meetings and may even be remitted to the commission for further elaboration. A directive does not have direct internal effect, but creates obligations on the governments of the member states to ensure that its requirements are strictly and fully implemented, where necessary by national legislation. Once adopted, council directives may be adapted to technical progress by directives issued either by the commission or, if necessary, by the council on a proposal from the commission.

The texts of adopted directives are published in the 'L' (Legislation) series of the EEC *Official Journal*, and the texts of commission proposals in the 'C' (Information and Notices) series. Preliminary drafts and council revisions of commission proposals are not published. In the list below, the dates of issue of the *Official Journal* containing texts of adopted and proposed directives are given where they are known. The journal has appeared in English only since 1 January 1973, but the English texts of adopted directives published before then (together with all other pre-accession community legislation) were issued in a series of special editions of the *Official Journal* in December 1972. Asterisks indicate where changes in the status of documents have occurred during the past quarter.

The *Official Journal* is published by HM Stationery Office.

Subject	Reference of Directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Motor vehicles		
Type approval	70/156/EEC of 6.2.70	Directive (OJ 23.2.70)
Rear registration plates	70/222/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (OJ 6.4.70)
Noise levels, silencers	70/157/EEC of 6.2.70	Directive (OJ 23.2.70)
	Adapted to technical progress by 73/350/EEC of 7.11.73	Commission Directive (OJ 22.11.73)
	COM(74)1175 FINAL	Commission amending proposal
*Fuel tanks and rear protective devices	70/221 EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (OJ 6.4.70)
	XI/249/75	Preliminary draft for adaptation to technical progress
	XI/260/75 Rev 2	Preliminary draft for further adaptation to technical progress
Audible warning devices	70/388 EEC of 27.7.70	Directive (OJ 10.8.70)
*Atmospheric pollution by motor vehicles with positive ignition (spark ignition) engines	70/220/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (OJ 6.4.70)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/290/EEC of 28.5.74	Directive (OJ 15.6.74)
	XI/458/75	Preliminary draft for adaptation to technical progress
Steering equipment	70/311/EEC of 8.6.70	Directive (OJ 18.6.70)
Access (doors, running boards)	70/387/EEC of 27.7.70	(Directive (OJ 10.8.70)
Suppression of radio interference	72/245/EEC of 20.6.72	Directive (OJ 6.7.72)
Installation of lighting and light signalling equipment	COM(73)2024 FINAL	Commission proposal
Windscreen-wiper and windscreen-washer systems	XI/6/76	Preliminary draft
Field of vision	COM(75)619 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 8.3.76)
Rear-view mirrors	71/127/EEC of 1.3.71	Directive (OJ 22.3.71)
Electrical connections between vehicles and their trailers	COM(68)633 FINAL	Commission proposal withdrawn. Further work in hand
Speedometer equipment and reverse gear	74/443/EEC of 26.6.75	Directive (OJ 26.7.75)
Electrical circuits	Work not started	
Maximum speed (method determination)	Work not started	
Braking devices	71/320/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (OJ 6.9.71)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/132/EEC of 11.2.74	Commission directive (OJ 19.3.74)
	Adapted further to technical progress by 75/524/EEC of 25.7.75	Commission directive (OJ 8.9.75) and corrigendum (OJ 23.9.75)
Safety glass	COM(72)981 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 16.11.72)
Interior fittings (interior part of the passenger compartment other than interior rear view mirrors, layout of controls, roof or sliding roof, backrest and rear part of seats)	74/60/EEC of 17.12.73	Directive (OJ 11.2.74)
Tyres	XI/591/73 Rev 2 XI/119/74	Preliminary drafts
Mechanical coupling equipment between vehicles and trailers	Work started but no papers yet available	
*Anchor points for safety belts	76/115/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (OJ 30.1.76)
Atmospheric pollution by motor vehicles with diesel fuelled (compression ignition) engines	72/306/EEC of 2.8.72	Directive (OJ 20.8.72)
External projections	74/483/EEC of 17.9.74	Directive (OJ 2.10.74)
Head rests	COM(74)2180 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 14.4.75)
Anti-theft devices	74/61/EEC of 17.12.73	Directive (OJ 11.2.74)
Strength of seats and their anchorages	74/408/EEC of 22.7.74	Directive (OJ 12.8.74)
Behaviour of the steering mechanism in case of impact	74/297/EEC of 4.6.74	Directive (OJ 20.6.74)
Safety belts	COM(74)2180 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 14.4.75) (Directive approved but not yet formally adopted)
Location and attachment of statutory plates and inscriptions	76/114/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (OJ 30.1.76)
*Reverse gear	(See UK No. 1/16)	
Windscreen defrosting and demisting systems	XI/7/76	Preliminary draft
Interior fittings – identification of controls	Work not started	
Interiors fittings – seats (other than strength of seats and anchorages)	Work not started	
Special provisions for public service vehicles	Work started but no papers yet available	
Special provisions for taxis	Work not started	
Special provisions for goods vehicles	Work started but no papers yet available	
Towing hooks	COM(74)2172 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 1.2.75)
Trailer legs	XI/508/73 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Reflex reflecting devices	COM(73)2124 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 28.3.74)
Front fog light and lamps	COM(73)2123 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 28.3.74)
Rear registration plate lights	COM(74)2053 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 14.4.75)
Side lights, rear lights and stop lights	COM(74)2046 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 14.4.75)
Headlights	COM(74)2054 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 16.6.75)
Direction indicators	COM(65)240 FINAL	Commission proposal (subsequently revised)
Tractors and agricultural machinery		
Type approval	74/150/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (OJ 28.3.74)
Maximum speed and Loading platforms	74/152/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (OJ 28.3.74)
Sundry characteristics (total permissible laden	74/151/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (OJ 28.3.74)

Subject	Reference of Directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
weight; location of registration plates; fuel tanks; audible warning devices; noise levels and silencers; ballast weights)		
Shielding of engine parts and projecting parts	XI/48/74	Preliminary draft following reconsideration of COM(68)565 FINAL
Towable load	COM(68)565 FINAL	Commission proposal referred back for further consideration
Rear-view mirrors	74/346/EEC of 25.6.74	Directive (OJ 15.7.74)
Lighting and light signalling devices	COM(74)895 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 13.9.74)
Steering equipment	75/321/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (OJ 9.6.75)
Electrical connection for supplying trailer lighting and light signalling equipment	75/323 EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (OJ 9.6.75)
Suppression of radio interference	75/322/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (OJ 9.6.75)
Driver's seat	XI/49/74	Preliminary draft
*Passenger seat	COM(66)116 FINAL XI/402/73 Rev 1	Commission proposal Revision of the technical provisions of the Commission proposal
Coupling between tractor and trailer	COM(68)565 FINAL	Commission proposal referred back for further consideration
*Braking devices	COM(74)895 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 13.9.74) (adoption of directive imminent)
Safety glass	X1/299/74	Preliminary draft
*Atmospheric pollution	COM(75)621 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 15.1.76)
Tyres	Work not yet started	
Power take-off	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Field of vision (including windscreen wipers)	74/347/EEC of 25.6.74	Directive (OJ 15.7.74)
Location and attachment of statutory plates and inscriptions	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Length, width and unladen height	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Maximum authorised weight on each axle and distribution of weight between axles	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Maximum vertical load at coupling point	XI/509/73	Preliminary draft
Speed governor	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Reverse gear	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Rollover protective structures	COM(74)2197 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 16.5.75)
Other means of protection against the weather	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Location of controls	XI/44/74	Preliminary draft
Coupling hooks (front coupling devices)	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Noise level at the driver's ear	COM(74)316 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 18.6.74)
Metrological		
General directive	71/316/EEC of 26.7.71 72/427/EEC of 19.12.72	Directive (OJ 6.9.71) Amending directive (OJ 28.12.72)
Clinical thermometers	COM(66)124 FINAL	Commission proposal
Medium accuracy weights	71/317/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (OJ 6.9.71)
Measurements of the standard mass per storage volume of grain	71/347/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (OJ 25.10.71)
Calibration of ships, tanks	71/349/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (OJ 25.10.71)
Measure of length	73/362/EEC of 19.11.73	Directive (OJ 5.12.73)
Non-automatic weighing machines	73/360/EEC of 19.11.73	Directive (OJ 5.12.73)
Electricity meters	COM(73)276 FINAL COM(73)276 Rev 1	Commission proposal (OJ 26.10.73) Subsequent revision
Meters for liquids other than water	71/319/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (OJ 26.7.71)
Meters for liquids other than water – measuring systems	COM(75)577 FINAL	Commission proposal
Meters for liquids other than water-ancillary equipment	71/348/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (OJ 25.10.71)
Gas volume meters	71/318/EEC of 26.7.71 Adapted to technical progress by 74/331/EEC of 12.6.74	Directive (OJ 6.9.71) Commission Directive (OJ 12.7.74)
Making-up by volume of certain prepackaged liquids	75/106/EEC of 19.12.74	Directive (OJ 15.2.75)
Bottles used as measuring containers	75/107/EEC of 19.12.74	Directive (OJ 15.2.75)
Cold water meters	75/33/EEC of 17.12.74	Directive (OJ 20.1.75)
Hot water meters	Work not yet started	
Heat meters	Work not yet started	
Road and rail tanks used as measuring containers	COM(74)877 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 13.9.74)
Taximeters	COM(73)333 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 25.7.75)
Alcoholometers and hydrometers for alcohol Alcoholometric tables	COM(74)1871 FINAL	Commission proposal (Directive approved but not yet formally adopted)
Saccharimeters	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Belt weighers	75/410/EEC of 24.6.75	Directive (OJ 14.7.75)
Instruments for determining the fat content of dairy produce	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Manometers	III/1919/72	Preliminary draft in abeyance. Further work in hand
Apparatus for measuring arterial pressure	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Fine accuracy weights	74/148/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (OJ 28.3.74)
Instruments for measuring moisture content of grain	XI/86/74	Preliminary draft
Electronic devices fitted to measuring instruments	XI/578/74	Preliminary draft
Units of measurement	71/354/EEC of 18.10.71 COM(75)573 FINAL	Directive (OJ 29.10.71) Commission amending proposal (OJ 29.1.76)
*Check-weighing and grading machines	COM(75)573 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 8.3.76)
*Making up by weight or by volume of certain pre-packaged products	76/211/EEC of 21.1.76	Directive (OJ 21.2.76)
Differential pressure gasmeters	Work not yet started	
*Standardisation of prepackages	XI/31/76	Preliminary draft
Fees and charges for testing gas meters	COM(74)776 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 1.7.74)
Instruments for measuring pollution of air	Work not yet started	
Electrical		
Electrical equipment designed for use between certain voltage limits	73/23/EEC of 19.2.73	Directive (OJ 26.3.73)
Electro-medical equipment Electro-radiological equipment	COM(74)2178 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 12.2.75)
*Electrical equipment for use in explosive atmospheres	76/117/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (OJ 30.1.76)
Suppression of radio interference from domestic equipment, portable tools and similar equipment	COM(72)853 FINAL	Commission proposal (Not yet published)
Suppression of radio interference from fluorescent lamps	COM(72)853 FINAL	Commission proposal (Not yet published)
Suppression of radio interference from radio and television sets	COM(73)569 FINAL	Commission proposal
Suppression of radio interference from industrial, scientific and medical equipment	COM(74)1181 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 6.3.75)
Plugs and sockets	Unreferenced revision of XI/104/74	Preliminary draft
Textiles		
Textile names	71/307/EEC of 26.7.71 75/36/EEC of 17.12.74	Directive (OJ 16.8.71) Directive supplementing 71/307/EEC (OJ 20.1.75)
Textiles (binary mixtures)	72/276/EEC of 17.7.72	Directive (OJ 31.7.72)
Textiles (ternary mixtures)	73/44/EEC of 26.2.73	Directive (OJ 30.3.73)
Quantitative analysis of mixtures of fibres of the same chemical nature	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Elimination of foreign matter	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Pressure vessels		
General directive	COM(72)1689 FINAL	Commission proposal (Not yet published)
Seamless steel gas cylinders	COM(72)1689 FINAL	Commission proposal (Not yet published)
Aerosols	75/324/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (OJ 9.6.75)
Seamless aluminium gas cylinders	COM(74)966 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 13.9.74)
Welded steel gas cylinders	COM(74)965 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 13.9.74)
Unfired welded steel simple pressure vessels	XI/584/75	Preliminary draft
Shell boilers	Work not yet started	
Dangerous substances and preparations		
*General (classification, packaging and labelling)	67/548/EEC of 27.6.67 73/146/EEC of 21.5.73 75/409/EEC of 24.6.75 XI/ENV/236/76	Directive (OJ 16.8.67) Amending directive (OJ 25.6.73) Amending directive (OJ 14.7.75) Preliminary draft for further amendment
Pesticides	COM(74)?193 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 20.2.75)
Approval and marketing of pesticides	15.175/VI/69	Preliminary draft
Explosives	13269/III/70	Preliminary draft
Solvents	73/173/EEC of 4.6.73	Directive (OJ 11.7.73)
Paints, varnishes, printing inks, glues, etc.	COM(75)311 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 23.7.75)
Household products	III/425/72	Preliminary draft
Corrosives	Work started, but no papers yet available	

Subject	Reference of Directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Detergents	73/404/EEC of 22.11.73	Directive (OJ 17.12.73)
Anionic surface agents	73/405/EEC of 22.11.73	Directive (OJ 17.12.73)
Non-ionic surface agents	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Detergents – toxicity	Work in abeyance	
Dangerous substances (PCBs) – limitations on sale and use	COM(74)1189 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 17.10.74)
	COM(75)186 FINAL	Commission amending proposal (Directive approved but not yet formally adopted)
Lifts and lifting apparatus		
*Wire ropes, chains and hooks	73/361/EEC of 19.11.73	Directive (OJ 5.12.73)
	Unreferenced	Commission proposal for adaptation to technical progress
Lifting appliances (General)	COM(75)336 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 29.9.75)
Tower cranes for building work	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Builders' hoists	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Conveyor-belts	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Electrically operated lifts	COM(75)336 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 29.9.75)
Industrial trucks	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Tools and machine tools		
General Directive	XI/216/74 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Grinding wheels and grinding machines	XI/217/74	Preliminary draft
Portable grinding machines	XI/270/75	Preliminary draft (but now agreed to divide into three separate directives – 9/3, 9/4, 9/5)
Fixed grinding machines	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Grinding wheels	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Woodworking machines	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Crystal glass		
Crystal glass	69/493/EEC of 15.12.69	Directive (OJ 29.12.69)
Oil pipelines		
Oil pipelines (construction)	COM(68)640 FINAL	Work on this proposal suspended in favour of an initial standardisation in CEN
Precious metals		
*Precious metals	COM(75)607 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 16.1.76)
Gas appliances		
General	COM(74)2179 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 16.6.75)
Instantaneous water heaters	COM(74)2179 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 16.6.75)
Cookers	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Central heating boilers	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Gas governers	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Independent space heaters	Work started, but no papers yet available	
Fertilisers		
*General	76/116/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (OJ 30.1.76)
Sampling and methods of analysis	10.388/III/67 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
*Nitrate of ammonia	COM(75)635 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 23.1.76)
Gas pipelines		
Gas pipelines (construction)	18.871/III/69	Work on this proposal suspended in favour of initial standardisation in CEN
Fuels		
Lead in petrol	COM(73)2050 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 31.1.74)
Sulphur in gas oils	COM(74)158 FINAL	Commission proposal (Directive approved but not yet formally adopted)
*Sulphur in heavy fuel oils	COM(75)681 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 8.3.76)
Rubber and plastics		
Reinforced plastics tanks for carriage of dangerous substances by road	COM(71)1446 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 15.3.72)
Construction materials		
Cement	Work in abeyance	
Ceramic tiles	Work in abeyance	
Glass	XI/437/74	Preliminary draft
PVC pipes	Work in abeyance	
Fire resistance	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Water supply equipment	Work started, but no papers yet received	

Subject	Reference of Directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Building and civil engineering equipment and machines		
General Noise: method of measurement Noise levels for pneumatic picks and concrete breakers	COM(74)2195 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 14.4.75)
*Noise levels for cranes	COM(75)558 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 8.3.76)
Noise levels for lawn mowers	XI/28/75 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
*Noise levels for current generators for welding Noise levels for current generators for power supply	COM(75)558 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 8.3.76)
Site safety: roll-over protective structures	XI/554/75	Preliminary draft
Site safety: falling-object protective structures	XI/555/75	Preliminary draft
Site safety: dimensions of operators' cabs	XI/556/75	Preliminary draft
Site safety: protecting guards and shields	XI/557/75	Preliminary draft
Road safety	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Mopeds		
Type approval	COM(72)1645 FINAL	Commission proposal
	COM(73)1732 FINAL	Commission amending proposal
Engines	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Noise	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Motor cycles		
Type approval	COM(74)2177 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 20.2.75)
*Permissible sound level and exhaust system	COM(75)634 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 8.3.76)
Non-military arms and ammunition		
	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Firefighting equipment		
Portable fire extinguishers	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Metal scaffolding		
	XI/34/76	Preliminary draft
Packaging materials		
	Work not yet started	
Educational materials		
	Work not yet started	
Equipment using ionising rays		
	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Protective clothing and equipment		
Protective helmets (industrial)	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Protectvie helmets for motor cyclists	XI/227/75	Preliminary draft
Respiratory protective devices	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Industrial safety belts and harnesses	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Eye protectors	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Protective footwear	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Pleasure boats		
*Type approval	XI/576/75	Preliminary draft
*Glass reinforced plastic hull construction	Work started, but no papers yet received	
Cosmetics		
Cosmetic products	COM(72)851 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 23.12.73)
	COM(73)1733 FINAL	Commission proposal
	COM(75)147 FINAL	Commission amending proposal
Leaching of substances into foodstuffs		
General	COM(74)1168 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 11.10.74)
	COM(75)426 FINAL	Amendment
Materials and objects in glass intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	687/VI/73	Preliminary draft
Materials and objects in stainless steel intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	688/VI/73	Preliminary draft
Materials and objects in ceramics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	COM(74)2173 FINAL	Commission proposal (OJ 27.2.75)
Materials and objects in plastics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	3003/VI/74	Preliminary draft
Toys		
	XI/288/74	Preliminary draft

guide to the ecgd

Export Credits Guarantee Department
Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL
01-606 6699

The Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) is an independent Government Department within the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Trade.

ECGD offers the following main facilities:

Insurance for the exporter against the risk of not being paid for his goods or services.

Bank guarantees for export finance.

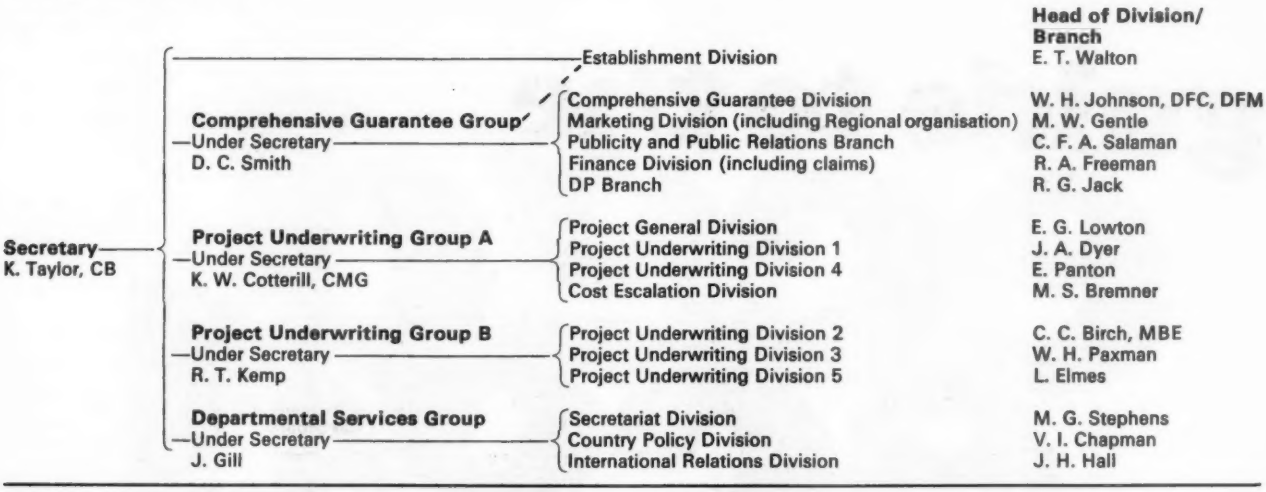
A measure of cover against UK cost escalation on major capital goods projects worth at least £2 million.

Support for the issue of performance bonds for contracts on cash or very short payment terms worth at least £2 million.

Insurance against the political risks of new overseas investment for up to 15 years.

guide to the ecgd

Organisation



	Head of Division/ Branch
Establishment Division	E. T. Walton
Comprehensive Guarantee Division	W. H. Johnson, DFC, DFM
Marketing Division (including Regional organisation)	M. W. Gentle
Publicity and Public Relations Branch	C. F. A. Salaman
Finance Division (including claims)	R. A. Freeman
DP Branch	R. G. Jack
Project General Division	E. G. Lowton
Project Underwriting Division 1	J. A. Dyer
Project Underwriting Division 4	E. Panton
Cost Escalation Division	M. S. Bremner
Project Underwriting Division 2	C. C. Birch, MBE
Project Underwriting Division 3	W. H. Paxman
Project Underwriting Division 5	L. Elmes
Secretariat Division	M. G. Stephens
Country Policy Division	V. I. Chapman
International Relations Division	J. H. Hall

Responsibilities of Groups and Divisions

Comprehensive Guarantee Group

Under Secretary: D. C. Smith

Mr. Smith is responsible for the Comprehensive Guarantee, Marketing and Finance Divisions and for Publicity and Public Relations and Data Processing Branches. He is also responsible for Establishment Division work associated with the Comprehensive Guarantee Group's dispersal to Cardiff.

Comprehensive Guarantee Division

Head: W. H. Johnson, DFC, DFM

Provides cover for a firm's total export turnover, or for its total turnover in an acceptable number of markets, against loss from non-payment or non-receipt of payment in sterling.
Cover may be given for both manufacturers and merchants and also to UK confirmers, shippers and finance houses who make payment to UK suppliers and in turn give credit to overseas buyers.

In some circumstances cover will also be made available for trade in UK goods carried on by subsidiaries of UK companies in overseas countries, and for the holding of stocks of UK goods overseas, or goods on display at fairs overseas.

Cover is also provided for external trade carried on by UK merchants or confirmers where the goods concerned are shipped directly from one overseas country to another.

Marketing Division

Head: M. W. Gentle

Responsible for the Regional Organisation and for relations with the individual policy-holder through Regional Offices; and for relations with brokers and trade association.

Publicity and Public Relations Branch

Head: C. F. A. Salaman

Responsible for the Department's general publicity and public relations.

Finance Division

Head: R. A. Freeman

Responsible for all financial matters in the Department including claims.

DP Branch

Head: R. G. Jack

Responsible for the Department's computer installations and the development and implementation of new data processing tasks.

Project Group 'A'

Under Secretary: K. W. Cotterill, CMG,
Deputy Head of Department

Mr. Cotterill is responsible for Project Underwriting Divisions 1 and 4 and for Project General and Cost Escalation Divisions. He also has general responsibility for policy in the Project Underwriting field.

Project General Division

Head: E. G. Lowton

Responsible for the application and development of policy and procedures in the Project Underwriting Divisions.

Project Underwriting Division 1

Head: J. A. Dyer

Responsible for Buyer Credit and Supplier Credit for arms (including naval ships, military aircraft and missiles) and civil aircraft.

Also Specific Guarantees, Buyer Credit and Lines of Credit for markets in Eastern Europe (including Yugoslavia), China, Cuba, North Korea, Mongolia, and Vietnam.

Project Underwriting Division 4

Head: E. Panton

Provides: unconditional guarantees to banks providing post shipment export finance at interest rates of ¼ per cent over their base rate for credit under two years, and at specially fixed rates for credit of two years or more; unconditional guarantees to banks to facilitate on a selective basis otherwise unavailable pre-shipment finance at interest rates of 1 per cent over base rate for capital goods contracts and projects worth at least £1 million and with a manufacturing period of one year or more;
guarantees to induce the issue of Performance, Tender and Advance Payment Bonds for

contracts on cash or near cash terms and with a value of £2 million or more where the bonds cannot otherwise be made available in the commercial market;
cover to members of consortia, contracting overseas for projects of the order of £20 million against losses they may sustain as a consequence of the insolvency of a fellow consortium member.

Cost Escalation Division

Head: M. S. Bremner

Administers the cost escalation scheme under which a measure of cover is given against certain UK cost increases for major capital goods contracts worth at least £2 million and with a manufacturing period of two years or more.

Project Group 'B'

Under Secretary: R. T. Kemp

Mr. Kemp is responsible for Project Underwriting Divisions 2, 3 and 5.

Project Underwriting Division 2

Head: C. C. Birch, MBE

Specific Guarantees, Buyer Credit and Lines of Credit for North, Central and South America, the Caribbean (excluding Cuba) and Africa (except Egypt).

Project Underwriting Division 3

Head: W. H. Paxman

Specific Guarantees, Buyer Credit and Lines of Credit for Western Europe, Middle East (including Egypt), Far East, Australasia.

Project Underwriting Division 5

Head: L. Elmes

Insures new overseas investment against political risks for a maximum of 15 years.

Supplier Credit (and related Bank Guarantees) and Buyer Credit for merchant ships, hovercraft and containers and services (including consultancies, technical services, 'know-how' etc.). Also responsible for leasing and Supplier Credit Constructional Works Guarantees.

Departmental Services Group

Under Secretary: J. Gill

Mr. Gill is responsible for Secretariat, Country Policy and International Relations Divisions.

Secretariat Division

Head: M. G. Stephens

Responsible for development and co-ordination of general Department policy including new facilities and for statistics. It is also responsible for co-ordination of the Department's parliamentary and ministerial work.

Country Policy Division

Head: V. I. Chapman

Responsible for assessing the extent of, and conditions attaching to, the facilities the Department can offer for each overseas market.

International Relations Division

Head: J. H. Hall

Responsible for the Department's general relations with export credit authorities and organisations in other countries, negotiations of international export credit agreement, and co-ordination of Departmental policy on credit terms.

Establishment Division

Head: E. T. Walton

Responsible for staff matters and certain common services direct to the Secretary. Under Mr. D. C. Smith the division also has overall responsibility for implementing the dispersal to Cardiff of the Comprehensive Guarantee Group.

Countrywide organisation

All parts of the UK are covered by one or other of the ECGD's offices. These offices and the areas for which they are responsible are indicated on the map.
The names of the Directors of these offices, together with full addresses and telephone numbers, are listed below.
The Directors and their staffs are responsible for maintaining contact with individual exporters, selling the Department's facilities and servicing policyholders' requirements.

Central London
(Includes London postal districts EC1, EC2, EC3, EC4, WC1, WC2, W1 and SW1)
Waverley House, 7-12 Noel Street, London W1V 3PB.
Tel: 01-437 2292. Telex: 24105.
Regional Director: D. G. Hake.

North London
(Includes London postal districts NW, E and N)
593-599 High Road, Tottenham, London NI7 6SW.
Tel: 01-808 4570. Telex: 263615.
Regional Director: C. W. Gentry.

South London
(Includes London postal districts SW2-20, W2-14 and SE; also covers the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands)
320 Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey CR0 4XJ.
Tel: 01-686 9921. Telex: 946998.
Regional Director: T. W. Hawes.

Belfast
(Responsible for ECGD activities in the whole of Northern Ireland)
River House, High Street, Belfast BT1 2BE.
Tel: Belfast 31743. Telex: 74577.
Regional Director: R. H. Forsyth.

Birmingham
Colmore Centre, 115 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 3SB.
Tel: 021-233 1771. Telex: 33132.
Regional Director: F. Wilmot.

Bristol
Robinson Building, 1 Redcliffe Street, Bristol BS1 6NP.
Tel: Bristol 299971. Telex: 44248.
Regional Director: R. A. Bounds.

Cambridge
72-80 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1NJ.
Tel: Cambridge 68801. Telex: 81624.
Regional Director: H. Watson.

Glasgow
(Responsible for ECGD activities in the whole of Scotland)
Fleming House, 134 Renfrew Street, Glasgow G3 6TL.
Tel: 041-332 8707. Telex: 77130.
Regional Director: F. R. Burge.

Leeds
West Riding House, 67 Albion Street, Leeds LS2 5AA.
Tel: 0532 450631. Telex: 55125.
Regional Director: W. Ford.

Manchester
(Also covers Isle of Man)
Elisabeth House, St. Peter's Square, Manchester M2 4AJ.
Tel: 061-228 3621. Telex: 667756.
Regional Director: R. H. K. Hughes.
The area covered by each office is indicated on the map.

Types of credit arrangement

Supplier Credit
The traditional method of financing exports by which credit is given to the buyer by the supplier, who is insured by ECGD against non-payment.

Buyer Credit
Buyer Credit for major capital goods contracts involves a loan being made by a British bank direct to an overseas borrower. The British exporter can then be paid by his customer on or before shipment. The loan is normally 80 per cent of the value of the contract and at a special fixed export interest rate. The minimum contract value for such arrangements is £250,000.

Lines of Credit
Loans made by a UK bank to a foreign bank for the purpose of providing finance for a number of contracts with suppliers in the UK so that they may be paid in cash on shipment. The minimum value for such contracts is often as low as £10,000.

United Kingdom network of ECGD offices

Trade Information

ECGD buyer credits help capital goods exports

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £152 million loan to Poland to help build a chemical plant. One of the largest ever buyer credit loans to be backed by ECGD it follows a total of £830 million of new buyer credit loans guaranteed by ECGD in 1975.

The Polish loan was made available by Lloyds Bank Limited to Bank Handlowy w Warszawie. It will help finance a 'turn-key' contract won by Petrocarbon Developments Ltd. for a plant at Wroclaw to produce 200,000 tons of PVC a year.

In a buyer credit arrangement the exporter receives payment on shipment from a loan made by a UK bank to the buyer – or a borrowing bank in the buyer's country – for this purpose. The UK bank's loan is repaid by instalments; ECGD guaranteeing the repayment. Buyer credits normally cover 80 per cent of a contract price.

Other important contracts in the field of chemical processing plant won by UK exporters in which finance was helped by ECGD guaranteed buyer credits include that won by Foster Wheeler (GB) Ltd. for new facilities at Shell Canada's plant at Sarnia, Ontario – a £11.2 million loan by Midland Bank; a polyester plant at Zaragoza, Spain – a £6.8 million Lloyds Bank loan; an ethylene plant for Yugoslavia – a £7.2 million Lloyds Bank loan; a Brazilian polypropylene plant – a £5.2 million Lloyds Bank International line of credit; and a £9 million Williams and Glyn's Bank loan for a Republic of Ireland acrylic fibre and spinning plant. Besides Foster Wheeler the UK firms whose contracts were aided by these facilities were Simon Carves Ltd. of Stockport, Kineta Technology International Ltd. of London and Matthew Hall Engineering Ltd.

Offshore exploration

Oil exploration in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea and related industries present British exporters with opportunities that have been helped by buyer credit loans during 1975-76. The £5 million Barclays Bank line of credit to Norpipe A/S for Ekofisk oil field contracts brought the total amount of ECGD guaranteed buyer credit for Ekofisk developments to £45 million; while during the year two loans arranged by National Westminster for Frigg oilfield development and totalling £42 million were guaranteed. A £4.9 million loan by Williams and Glyn's Bank made available to Loffland and Mid-Continent Supply Company of Fort Dallas is being used to finance UK contracts for Norwegian Sector offshore rigs. Elsewhere, Procon (Great Britain) Ltd. was supported by a £33 million Lloyds Bank loan for its part in a multi-national oil refinery project on Algeria's Mediterranean coast.

Exports by the UK power equipment industries received considerable support during the year through buyer credits guaranteed by ECGD : for example the £10.4 million loan by Williams and Glyn's to Calgary Power Ltd. of Canada to help finance the supply of turbo-generation equipment by GEC Turbine Generators. Another large loan to help this sector of British industry was the £23.6 million made available by Barclays Bank to the New Zealand Ministry of Finance : C. A. Parsons and Company are the UK suppliers of turbine generators which will be in service in 1980 at Huntley Power Station, Auckland. Other guaranteed loans for power generating equipment aided exports to Argentine, Colombia, Mexico and Denmark.

The development of the steel industry in Brazil was helped by a £20 million Midland Bank line of credit arranged by Samuel Montagu for UK capital equipment for Acesita's steelworks at Timotea; under it Davy-Loewy of Sheffield won a contract to supply a rolling mill. Following an ECGD guaranteed loan to AHMSA, Mexico in 1974 for the supply of a £53 million extension by Davy-Ashmore International to a steelworks extension at Monclova, ECGD guaranteed a further £21 million loan arranged by Brandts Ltd. to help AHMSA buy capital equipment from UK suppliers.

Other industrial developments world-wide aided by ECGD guaranteed loans to buyers or overseas banks included £31 million provided by Barclays Bank International Ltd. to help finance an extension to the Ursus Project Tractor Plant in Poland. This supplements the original loan announced in 1974 of £127 million under which Massey-Ferguson-Perkins is the major participant. By 1980 it is expected that the Ursus Tractor Group will be producing 5,000 tractor units and 9,000 engine units a year. Platt Saco Lowell of Accrington will be responsible for equipping and supervising the erection of a textile spinning plant at Rasht, Northern Iran to be

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commissioned in 1977;; under ECGD guarantee, a £6 million loan was made available by Midland Bank.

Agreement with Russia

Following the trade and credit agreement with Russia in the early part of 1975, British exports that have been backed by buyer credit financing include contracts for machinery manufacturing sparking plug insulators, an automated conveyor system and leather processing machinery.

UK companies involved in the development of Zambian copper mining were aided by a £3 million line of credit arranged by Morgan Grenfell with Roan Consolidated Mining (RCM), and by a £17 million loan which Morgan Grenfell acting on behalf of Lloyds Bank made to RCM to help finance a mine modernisation contract awarded to Seltrust Engineering of London.

Several buyer credit agreements for sugar processing plants were announced during the year. The £15.3 million loan arranged by Dashwood Finance for a Fletcher and Stewart of Derby contract for a plant on the island of Mindanao, Philippines was the fourth in that country to be covered by an ECGD guaranteed loan. Fletcher and Stewart were again the contractor for a new factory in San Salvador; the £8 million loan by Williams and Glyn's being the first for San Salvador to be guaranteed by ECGD. A. and W. Smith Ltd. was the main contractor for a sugar factory for the Zambian Sugar Company for which Antony Gibbs on behalf of Lloyds Bank arranged the loan.

Other substantial projects won by UK exporters and backed by ECGD with buyer credit guarantees included the expansion of the Indonesian radio and TV networks – an £8.5 million Barclays Bank loan for contracts won by Marconi and Pye; the Qatar Fertiliser Company's Ammonia Plant – a £13 million Hambros Bank line of credit; and for Indonesia again – a £16 million Midland Bank loan for a British Insulated Callender's Cables' contract for the Ministry of Telecommunications. A de-salination plant in Qatar and a sewage plant in South Korea were among other exports supported by ECGD in this way.

Construction projects

Among construction industry projects aided by ECGD guarantees was a £13.8 million bridge re-construction programme in Indonesia, for which Balfour Beatty were the contractors; Hill Samuel arranged the loan on behalf of the Midland Bank. In the Republic of Ireland UK contracts for a cement works expansion scheme were largely financed under an £18.2 million Midland Bank line of credit. Peru and Liberia are other importing countries that have received ECGD guaranteed loans for construction projects.

Several shipbuilding exports were aided by buyer credit financing. The £26.4 million loan for a 7,400tdw deep water drill ship being built by Scott's Shipbuilding Company of Greenock for delivery in 1977 being an example; the loan to Liberia being arranged by Hambros Bank on behalf of two Scottish banks. The construction of Austin and Pickersgill SD 14 ships was also aided by guaranteed loans; buying countries included Norway, Panama, Liberia and Cuba. A £35 million loan for which Hambros Bank acted on behalf of a consortium of London Clearing and Scottish banks was made to SUNAMAM Brazil to help finance the purchase by Brazilian shipyards of British components for locally built vessels.

Aircraft exports also, qualify for buyer credit financing. Overseas airlines who bought British aircraft and equipment included Philippine Airlines – two second-hand BAC 1-11's; Tarom (the Romanian state airline) – five new BAC 1-11's; and All-Nippon – 12 RB211 engines for 'Tri-stars'.

The industries supported by buyer credit facilities are those winning the large value contracts, often against formidable opposition in fields where finance and credit terms are an important key to competitiveness. ECGD backing is a vital ingredient of the financial support to these important sectors of British exporting industry.

Hungary's Fifth Five-Year Plan

The Hungarian authorities have recently published the Fifth Five Year Economic Plan to run from 1976 to 1980. The publication of the Plan has been accompanied by reviews in the press, and in speeches by the Hungarian leaders on the achievements in the now concluded Fourth Plan period and of prospects for the new plan period which is just beginning. It is therefore a good time to take stock and consider the opportunities offered for British exporters.

The Hungarian economy

Hungarians say with some justification that Hungary is a country at the medium level of economic development. She is not as highly industrialised as the most advanced countries of the West, but since 1945 industry has developed more quickly than agriculture or the service sector, and now represents the greater part of Hungarian economic activity. Nevertheless agriculture still employs nearly a quarter of the labour force. This has been the slowest growing sector since the war. Services have come somewhere between industry and agriculture, growing at roughly the same rate as the economy as a whole. In 1974, National Income was four times as high as immediately before the war.

Hungary is not rich in natural resources. She supplies nearly a quarter of her own oil needs and has some, but far from sufficient natural gas. Coal mining is being revitalised in the light of the world oil price rise. Hungary's main resource is bauxite which feeds a large aluminium industry. Hungary is also short of labour so that productivity is becoming ever more important. In spite of this, most basic industries are present in Hungary. Some industries have been selected for special attention, partly from an assessment of national priorities and partly as a result of the process of integration of the economies of the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA). The most important sectors are telecommunications and precision engineering, instruments and computers, buses, pharmaceuticals and chemicals. There is however no passenger car industry, and one of the two plants making trucks is to be switched to other production shortly. The other one also makes heavy-duty back axles, as well as diesel engines under a West German licence. Pharmaceuticals have made rapid progress and Hungary is now the seventh or eighth largest exporter of pharmaceuticals in the world. The development of the chemical industry has been aimed at producing both fertilisers for agriculture as well as synthetic materials such as PVC. But at the moment Hungary is not self-sufficient in synthetic materials.

The building industry has special importance. In common with some of her neighbours Hungary has suffered from considerable housing difficulties as industrialisation and urbanisation have proceeded. Strenuous efforts have been made to expand the housing stock. The Government attaches great importance to this programme and naturally Hungary has been on the lookout for techniques and materials from overseas to enable her to modernise and speed up building methods. Several licences have been acquired including from the United Kingdom.

There is also a fairly diverse light industrial sector. The most important part of it is the textile and clothing industry, but the paper, furniture and leather goods industries are also important.

This brief survey of Hungary's economic structure would be incomplete without further mention of agriculture. Farming is important both as a provider of food for the population and as a source of sizeable export earnings. The main grain crops are wheat and

maize, and other important crops are sugar beet, fruit and vegetables, potatoes and of course grapes both for consumption and wine-making. Arable and crop production provides about 60 per cent of agricultural production and animal rearing the rest. Pigs are the most important animals but there are cattle, both beef and dairy, poultry and some sheep.

Because of Hungary's relative poverty in natural resources her diversified economy makes her heavily dependent on foreign trade. Up to half her national income derives from trade and her export record is therefore vitally important. Of late the increase in oil prices has led to some concern over Hungary's current bilateral balance with the USSR, making an increase in exports to the Soviet Union an important necessity in addition to the requirements to reverse the negative balances with the West. So far as the United Kingdom is concerned, in 1975 British exports at £44½ million well exceeded the £26 million flow in the opposite direction. This imbalance (and similar imbalances with West Germany, France and other major western trading nations) is having a continuing effect on Hungary's trading policy.

The new Plan

It is against this background that the new Plan was published towards the end of 1975. The publication and approval of the Plan have taken place earlier in Hungary than in some other East European countries but enterprises are only now working out the implications of the national Plan for their own activities. Thus most of the purchasing and investment decisions which flow from the national Plan have yet to be finalised.

One of the most striking features about the new Plan is that the Government are aiming for a rate of growth which seems relatively unaffected by the economic difficulties of the last few years. The target for 1976-80 is for a growth in national income of between 30 and 32 per cent over the five years as a whole. This is only slightly less than the target which was set for the five years 1971-75 but is quite a drop from the actual achievement of the last five years, a growth rate of 36 per cent. Industrial output is to grow a little more than national income which reflects the continuing aim of increasing the proportion of national income derived from industry.

The effect of world economic difficulties can be seen most clearly in the planned rate of growth of consumption – 23-25 per cent over the whole five years. The Government has said that consumption must grow more slowly than national income because increased raw material prices have caused a marked deterioration in Hungary's terms of trade. The public must sacrifice some of the growth in consumption they might have enjoyed so that resources can be released for investments largely aimed at improving export performance.

The Government's investment plans show that the areas singled out for rapid and special development have changed little from the previous Five Year Plan period. The sectors specifically mentioned in the Plan are aluminium, petro-chemicals and computers. There were specific development programmes for the vehicle building industry (ie buses) and for light structure building under the Fourth Five Year Plan, and the Fifth Plan calls for their completion.

Opportunities for British companies

The main problem which the Hungarian economy faces at the moment is that resulting from the deterioration in her terms of trade. Consequently the Hungarian Government's plans call for a large increase in exports, particularly to the West (60 per cent over the five years).

Similarly it can be expected that the current trend for applications for import licences to be increasingly carefully scrutinised, will continue, and that licences will be very difficult to obtain if a comparable product is obtainable from the CMEA countries. Projects offering a quick return in exports to the West, such as food processing, are securing priority, but in general it is the export industries and high technology methods of raising productivity which are at the front of the queue.

Thus, although the next few years will certainly be a difficult period for the Hungarian economy and there will only be a comparatively limited number of large new projects, there will continue to be important opportunities for Western companies in Hungary in the next five years. Breaking into the market however requires regular visits, patience, persistence and a flexible approach. British businessmen are regularly compared unfavourably here in these regards with their West German counterparts. The market may not compare with many larger countries, but many important Western European companies have found its cultivation rewarding and paying good dividends in the longer term. However, two notes of caution should be sounded. The centralisation of foreign trade via monopoly-holding state trading companies has not contributed to speedy decision-taking, and the nursing of an inquiry towards the contract stage is a protracted and frustrating business even for those with experience in state trading countries. This is a criticism which has been levelled at the Hungarian authorities at all levels, and determined, and on the whole effective measures are being taken to improve the situation, but there is some way to go. To offset this, unlike some other state trading countries, Hungary puts very few obstacles in the way of foreign businessmen meeting end-user enterprises. Thus technical requirements and conditions can quickly and directly be sorted out.

More significantly, because of their difficult foreign trade position, caused by the deterioration in Hungary's terms of trade, Hungarian foreign trading companies are constantly on the lookout for ways of obtaining machinery and knowhow for the least outflow of foreign currency. One way is to ask British companies to purchase from Hungary in return for selling, and another is to look for forms of industrial co-operation. Co-operation may involve part manufacture in the UK and part in Hungary, manufacture under licence in Hungary, joint sales in third markets or even joint ventures. The permutations are endless. A company which can offer any such possibility will certainly have the edge over its competitors. In some cases counter purchase will be a sine qua non of doing business.

In an article of this nature it is impossible to go into the kind of details individual companies need. An early opportunity to acquire more detail will be the lectures which are shortly to be given in the UK by Mr. Tamás Bácskai, a senior official of the Hungarian National Bank. He will be lecturing on the Plan at the London Chamber of Commerce on 26 April, at the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce on 27 April, at the Manchester Chamber on 29 April and in Glasgow, under the auspices of the Scottish Export Council on 30 April.

Import duties orders

The Treasury has made the Import Duties (Temporary Reductions and Exemptions) (No. 7) Order 1976. The Order continues in the UK tariff the recent suspension of the Common Customs Tariff of the European Economic Community on new potatoes (07.01 AIIa)) up to and including 25 April 1976 and on old potatoes (07.01 AIIIb)2) up to and including 30 June 1976. The Order will be published as Statutory Instrument 1976 No. 588.

The Treasury has also made The Import Duties (Temporary Reductions and Exemptions) (No. 8) Order 1976 which provides for exemption from or reduction in import duty in the case of goods of a description listed in the Schedules from 4 May 1976 up to and including 30 June 1977 or up to and including such earlier dates as are specified. The Order will be published as Statutory Instrument 1976 No. 589.

Do you use statistics?

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) prepares a wide range of reliable and detailed figures on the United Kingdom. It is usually worth checking to see if what you want is available from them. You can see many Government statistical publications at your local public library, buy them from HMSO or refer to the comprehensive collection held at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4N 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368).

A free pamphlet, *Government Statistics – a brief guide to sources*, gives up-to-date contact points in Departments for further information. You can obtain copies from regional offices of the Department of Industry or by writing to the Central Statistical Office Press and Information Service, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ.

Tariff and Trade Notices

Finland

Motor vehicles: import licensing. The Finnish authorities have announced that the temporary individual import licensing of private motor cars – BN 87.02 – has been removed by decree. No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 458/461.

Portugal

Hunting and recreational firearms: duty exemptions. The Portuguese authorities have announced that parts and components of hunting and recreational firearms under tariff headings 93.06.02 and 93.06.03 are exempt from import duties until 26.3.77. No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 458/461.

Foreign Investment Code: The Portuguese Authorities have published a Foreign Investment Code setting out guidelines under which foreign investment will be permitted in Portugal. The Code, promulgated as Decree Law 239/76 of 6 April 1976, requires all direct foreign investment to be duly authorised and details the conditions to apply in respect of re-investment, repatriation of capital and profits, employment of labour, transfer of technology etc., together with investment incentives and guarantees. Existing investment must be authorised within three months of publication of the law. A copy of the Code together with an unofficial translation is available on request. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5340.

Greece

Glues and aminoplasts: approval needed for import. According to the Greek press the following items are included from 22 March 1976 among items which come under import list A and which can only be imported after government approval.

Heading no.	Description
ex 39.01 C1bIIaa	Glues made from urea or phenol and formaldehyde (methanal), ie phenoplasts
39.01 C2blaa	Aminoplasts in liquid or paste form or in powder form

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 439.

Morocco

Transaction tax. The Moroccan authorities have announced that: Seed, oleaginous fruits and vegetable oils used for the manufacture of fluid seed oils are now exempt from transaction tax. No further information. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 461/459.

Israel

Edible oil: standards cancelled. The following Israeli standards have been cancelled (*Kovetz Hatakonot* No. 3498, 24 March 1976) and compliance with them is therefore no longer compulsory.

IS No. 57 – Edible sunflower oil
IS No. 131 – Edible cotton seed oil
IS No. 167 – Edible sesame oil

No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR 01-245 5757, ext. 458/461.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exporters (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Cameroon

Textile imports: prior authorisation. Cameroon's Ministry of Economy and Plan has decreed in Circular 31/MINEP/DC/SDCE that all imports of textile materials must obtain prior authorisation from the Ministry of Economy and Plan, whatever the value of the order. Each application for authority must be supported by an attestation from the local textile firms CICAM and SYNTHECAM, that neither is able to deliver the quality and quantity of materials required within a reasonable period. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 472/471/473/462.

Nigeria

Benin: Ports congestion. *Trade and Industry*, 2 April 1976, referred to the new regulations on the confiscation of goods remaining on the quays at Cotonou for more than 2 months. This does not apply to containerised or other goods in transit to Nigeria. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5334.

Zaire

Authorised imports. Following the recent measures announced by the Zairian Government, a further measure was introduced on 31 March 1976: imports of wax print, prêt-à-porter, men's suits and men's synthetic fabrics are again authorised.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-245 5757 ext. 472/471/473/462.

South Africa

Tariff application: Customs Tariff Application List 12/76, published in the South African *Government Gazette* 15 April 1976

contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on the following:

1 smoked salmon, classifiable under tariff subheading 03.02.90 and
2 plates, sheets, strip, film and foil of ethylene polymers or copolymers, pressure-sensitive classifiable under tariff subheading 39.02.10.70.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE tel: 01-215 5274.

Malaysia

Customs duties amendments. The Malaysian Government has passed the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 7) Order, 1976 which amends the First Schedule to the Customs Duties Order, 1968

1 By deleting the heading numbers 73.29 100 and 84.41 110 and all particulars that follow, and
2 Inserting in their appropriate places the following:

SCHEDULE IMPORT DUTY

Heading no.	Description	Unit of quantity	Federation common tariff
73.29	Chain and parts thereof, of iron or steel:		
100	Transmission chains for pedal cycles	No	25 cts. per linear ft
84.41	Sewing machines; furniture specially designed for sewing machines; sewing machine needles:		
	Sewing machines		
110	domestic	No	20% or $70 whichever is the higher

The Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 5) Order, 1976 amends the first schedule to The Customs Duties Order, 1968, by inserting in the appropriate place the heading number and details below:

Heading no.	Description	Unit of quantity	Schedule import duty: Federation Common tariff	Schedule import duty: West Malaysia / Sabah and Sarawak
85.19	Electrical apparatus for making and breaking electrical circuits, for the protection of electrical circuits, or for making connections to or in electrical circuits (for example, switches, relays, fuses, lightning arrestors, surge suppressors, plugs, lampholders and junction boxes); resistors, fixed or variable (including potentiometers), other than heating resistors; printed circuits; switchboards (other than telephone switchboards) and control panels:			
510	Cartridge fuses	No	35%	

The Customs Duties (Penang) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 1976 amends the schedule to The Customs Duties (Penang) Order, 1973 to make the duty on heading number 85.19 510 also applicable in Penang.

The Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 6) Order, 1976 amends the first schedule to The Customs Duties Order, 1968, by inserting in the appropriate place the heading number and details below:

Heading no.	Description	Unit of quantity	Schedule import duty: Federation Common tariff	Schedule import duty: West Malaysia / Sabah and Sarawak: Full	Schedule import duty: West Malaysia / Sabah and Sarawak: Pref
20.02	Vegetables prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid:				
120	In airtight containers: mushrooms	lb	25%		

Penang custom's duties amendments. The Malaysian Government has published the following amendments to The Customs Duties (Penang) Order, 1973.

The Customs Duties (Penang) (Amendment) (No. 4) Order, 1976 amends the schedule to the 1973 order as follows:

By inserting in their appropriate places heading numbers 20.02 120, 39.01 919, 39.02 919, 39.03 340 and 48.11 000.

Note: This schedule lists those items on which duty is payable when imported into Penang.

No further details are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 469/401/468.

Import control – gold and gold coin. The Malaysian Government has passed the Customs (Prohibition of Imports) (Amendment) Order 1976 which amends the Second, Third and Fourth Schedules of the Customs (Prohibition of Imports) Order 1969 so that the item now reads:

'Gold, gold coins (other than Malaysian $500 or $100 denomination gold coin or Singapore $150 denomination gold coin, each type not exceeding one piece, imported by a traveller on the person), bullion and any gold in whatever state or form, including articles of jewellery or ornament (other than reasonable quantity of articles of personal jewellery imported 'bona fide' as part of the personal baggage of a person arriving in the territory from a place outside the territory and intended solely for the personal use of such person). All countries including E Malaysia, W Malaysia, Sarawak and Sabah'.

1 The Second Schedule lists goods prohibited from entry into West Malaysia without an import licence.
2 The Third Schedule lists goods prohibited from entry into Sabah without an import licence.
3 The Fourth Schedule lists goods prohibited from entry into Sarawak without an import licence.

Import control – spark plugs. The Malaysian Government has passed the Customs (Prohibition of Imports) (Temporary Protective Measure) (Amendment) Order, 1976 which amends the Second Schedule to the Customs (Prohibition of Imports) (Temporary Protective Measure) Order, 1973 by deleting heading number 85.08 300 – Spark plugs.

The Second Schedule lists goods prohibited from entry into West Malaysia without an import licence.

Inquiries: OTAR tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 469/468/401.

Australia

Steel: Reference to the Temporary Assistance Authority. A notice in *Trade and Industry* of 16 April 1976 reported a request for temporary Protection against imports of galvanised sheet steel of the type falling within sub-item 73.13.3 of the Customs Tariff. This commodity has now been referred to the Temporary Assistance Authority. Although a notice in *Trade and Industry* of 26 March 1976 reported that the Australian Government had accepted the recommendations of the Industries Assistance Commission report on hot rolled sheets and plates of iron and steel not exceeding 3.2mm in thickness (tariff item 73.13.1) and cold rolled sheets and plates of iron or steel (tariff item 73.13.1) and had removed the restrictions, these items have also been included in the reference to the Temporary Assistance Authority. Ref. CRE 69/76. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

New Zealand

Paper and paper board containers: tariff amendments. The New Zealand Government has issued Customs Tariff (Paper and Paperboard Containers) Amendment Order 1976, which came into force on 2 April, 1976, amending tariff items: 48.16.001, 48.16.002, 48.16.003, 48.16.004, 48.16.009, 48.20.012, 48.20.018 which now read as follows:

No.	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
CHAPTER 48						
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard						
48.16	Boxes, bags and other packing containers, of paper or paperboard:					
48.16.001	Boxes	..	1975	45%	45%	Aul 27½% Can 32½ CPC 32½%
48.16.002	Bags	100's	1975	45%	45%	Aul 32½% Can 32½% CPC 32½%
48.16.004	Gramophone record covers, printed or embossed	..	1975	45%	45%	Aul 11% Can 27½% CPC 27½%
48.16.019	Other	..	1975	45%	45%	Aul 27½% Can 27½% CPC 27½%
48.20	Bobbins, spools, cops and similar supports of paper pulp, paper or paperboard (whether or not perforated or hardened):					
48.20.012	Cones of paper or paperboard	..	1975	40%	40%	Aul Free Can 32½% CPC 32½%
48.20.018	Other kinds	..	1975	40%	40%	Aul 25% Can 32½% CPC 32½%

Aul = Australia.
Can = Canada.
CPC = Commonwealth Preference Countries.

Inquiries OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Chile

Exchange rates. The Chilean Central Bank announced the following revised exchange rates during February and March 1976.

20 February	'Bank' and 'Brokers' rates raised from Pesos ($) 10.00 to $ 10.30 per US dollar
5 March	Both rates raised from $ 10.30 to $ 10.75 per US dollar
22 March	Both rates raised from $ 10.75 to $ 10.90 per US dollar
30 March	Both rates raised from $ 10.90 to $ 11.15 per US dollar

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5289.

Brazil

Proposed duty changes. The Brazilian authorities have announced proposed duty changes by means of Customs Policy Council Editals as follows:

RUTILE TITANIUM ORE: Proposed reduction. Edital 807 (*Diario Oficial* 12 February 1976) made public that the council was in the process of studying a reduction in import duty on rutile titanium ore, of tariff heading 26.01.17.01, from its current rate of 37 per cent to 0 per cent. There is no further information available at present.

COPPER GAUZE: Proposed increase. Edital 808 (*Diario Oficial*, 24 February 1976) made public that the council was in progress of studying an increase in import duty on copper gauze as follows:

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rate Current	Under study
74.11.00.00	Metallic gauze (including continuous gauze or endless gauze), with mesh of any type, of copper.		
74.11.01.00	Cylindrical (continuous or endless gauze), whether or not rigid, suitable for machines 'ex' solely for paper-making machines	17%	47%

There is no further information available at present.

BELT CONVEYORS: Proposed reduction. Edital 803 (*Diario Oficial*, 26 January 1976) made public that the council was in process of studying a reduction in import duty on belt conveyors, of tariff heading 84.22.90.00, from the current rate of 130 per cent to 0 per cent. There is no further information available at present.

PARTLY DEPOLYMERISED MICROCRYSTALLINE CELLULOSE Proposed reduction Edital 806 (*Diario Oficial*, 12 February 1976) made public that the council was considering a reduction in import duty on partly depolymerised microcrystalline cellulose, of tariff heading 39.03.07.99, from its current rate of 37 per cent to 15 per cent. There is no further information available at present.

COPOLYMERISED POLYSTYRENE. Proposed reduction. Edital 805 (*Diario Oficial* 29 January 1976) made public that the council was in process of studying reductions in import duty on copolymerised polystyrene intended solely for the production of ion exchangers, of tariff heading 39.02.02.99, of from the current rate of 55 per cent to 0 per cent. There is no further information available at present.

INDUSTRIAL ACIDS: Proposed reductions. Edital 804 (*Diario Oficial*, 26 January 1976) made public that the council was in the process of studying reductions in the import duty on certain industrial acids as follows:

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rate Current	Under study
15.10.03.00	Industrial fatty acids		
15.10.03.01	Industrial lauric acid	55%	25%
15.10.03.02	Industrial cetylic acid	55%	25%
15.10.03.03	Industrial stearic acid	55%	25%
15.10.03.04	Industrial oleic acid	55%	25%
15.10.03.05	Mixtures of primary aliphatic alcohols	55%	25%
15.10.03.06	Synthetic fatty alcohols	55%	25%
15.10.03.99	Other	55%	25%

There is no further information available at present.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 476/474.

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Her Majesty's Stationery Office will continue to handle all circulation and distribution matters and subscription inquiries, and queries should continue to be addressed to them.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
				of which			of which					
			Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries inc. shipping	Total	Manufacturing industry	Wholesalers	Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,472	9,380	2,130	2,090							
Series in						£ million				£ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	425	325	68	−30	735	−25	760
1971	102	103	102	93	104	70	−148	52	−10	1,058	280	778
1972	104	109	104	82	117	−18	−175	48	−11	131	−702	833
1973	110	114	107	88	125	1064	396	102	334	−842	−2,332	1,490
1974	110	113	105	98	113	597	666	81	−68	−3,650	−5,264	1.614
1975	108	113	104	85	98	−652	−381	−104	6	−1,702	−3,200	1,498
1973 1st qtr.	110	11E	109	86	130	370	166	37	51	−130	−343	213
2nd qtr.	110	113	104	83	118	308	88	3	185	−83	−414	331
3rd qtr.	110	114	107	92	120	181	46	29	47	−256	−625	369
4th qtr	109	114	107	89	132	205	96	32	51	−373	−950	577
1974 1st qtr	106	112	108	97	112	−176	−31	18	−59	−855	−1,297	442
2nd qtr.	110	112	100	96	110	295	191	43	27	−969	−1,366	397
3rd qtr.	112	113	103	97	119	373	368	3	−14	−861	−1,253	392
4th qtr.	111	114	107	101	113	105	139	17	−22	−965	−1,348	383
1975 1st qtr.	110	115	106	93	101	−176	−4	−31	−57	−435	−850	415
2nd qtr.	107	112	102	86	100	−254	−112	−54	−52	−336	−681	345
3rd qtr.	107	111	107	82	101	−156	−204	−29	60	−625	−986	361
4th qtr.	108	112	101	79	91	−66	−61	10	55	−306	−683	377
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	−0.8	−1.9	−0.2	−9.9	−4.6							
on a year earlier	−3.6	−2.0	−1.2	−18.9	−17.4							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs (NOT seasonally adjusted)					Labour (UK)			Trade	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices		Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults	Exports	Imports
				monthly averages		% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used	manufactured products: home sales•		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count	On a balance of payments basis	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan. 1974		1970	1970	July 1972					
£m in base year			15,895											
Series in				thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million at current price	
1971	100.4	99.6	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	775.8	3.4	130.9	8,810	8,530
1972	102.6	102.4	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	855.0	3.7	147.3	9,141	9,843
1973	110.2	110.9	110.7	137.1	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2	115.6	611.0	2.6	307.0	11,772	14,104
1974	106.1	107.8	109.9	102.8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	599.5ø	2.6ø	302.2ø	15,895	21,159
1975	100.9	101.4	107.9	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	179.8	929.0	4.0	148.2ø	18,772	21,972
1974 2nd qtr.	107.6	109.3	107.8	105	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.3	577.4	2.5	318.4	4,007	5,373
3rd qtr.	107.9	109.6	111.2	107	110.2	17.0	212.9	156.1	144.0	613.7	2.6	308.7	4,222	5,475
4th qtr.	104.7	105.6	111.3	97	115.1	18.2	222.1	164.9	153.5	..	..	..	4,185	5,533
1975 1st qtr.	104.6	106.1	111.3	108	122.0	20.3	220.9	176.0	163.6	737.9	3.2	..	4,532	5,382
2nd qtr.	99.8	100.0	108.9	94	133.6	24.3	225.6	186.3	176.3	847.4	3.6	164.4	4,479	5,160
3rd qtr.	99.5	99.9	105.5	103	139.4	26.6	239.3	193.4	185.5	1,000.0	4.3	133.6	4,635	5,621
4th qtr.	99.8	99.8	105.8	85	144.2	25.3	256.0	199.1	193.8	1,132.1	4.9	113.6	5,126	5,809
1976 1st qtr.				107 p			265.9 p	206.8 p		1,223.2p	5.3	115.5p		
1975 Feb.	105.0	106.7	111.6	109	121.9	19.9	218.8	175.9	162.0	740.1	3.2	198.3	1,481	1,813
Mar.	103.4	103.7	109.5	97	124.3	21.2	221.9	179.2	169.0	760.5	3.3	194.3	1,542	1,655
Apr.	101.1	101.4	120.0	95	129.1	21 7	222.9	182.5	170.1	798.3	3.4	180.8	1,379	1,729
May	99.1	99.1	103.7	95	134.5	25.0	226.2	187.3	176.4	850.3	3.6	163.3	1,611	1,693
June	99.1	99.4	104.1	91	137.1	26 1	227.7	189.0	182.6	893.5	3.8	149.0	1,489	1,738
July	100.1	100.6	105.4	91	138.5	26.3	233.2	191.7	184.8	968.2	4.1	133.9	1,567	1,943
Aug.	98.5	98.8	104.8	98	139.3	26.9	241.4	193.5	185.6	997.4	4.3	135.9	1,486	1,886
Sept.	100.0	100.3	106.1	120	140.5	26.6	243.2	194.9	186.0	1,034.4	4.4	131.1	1,582	1,792
Oct.	100.2	100.5	104.8	85	142.5	25.9	252.3	197.0	187.5	1,088.7	4.7	118.9	1,728	1,945
Nov.	100.2	100 5	105.2	81	144.2	25.2	256.7	198.9	195.6	1,133.0	4.9	111.8	1,637	1,918
Dec.	98.8	98.5	107.0	87	146.0	24.9	259.0	201.5	198.2	1,174.6	5.0	110.1	1,761	1,946
1976 Jan.	100.5	101.7	109.8	115	147.9	23.4	261.0	204.8	201.9	1,210.5	5.2	111.1	1,778	1,951
Feb.	101.4	101.4	107.1	101	149.8	22.9	263.4 p	207.2 p	205.1	1,232.4	5.3	113.5	1,756 p	2,005 p
Mar.				106 p			273.2 p	208.4 p		1,226.7p	5.3	122.0p		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	+0.1	+0.1	+2.4	+27.3	+3.9		+3.9	+3.9	+6.3	+8.0		+1.7	+7	+4½
on a year earlier	−4.1	−5.3	−3.3	−0.3	+23.7		+20.3	+17.5	+26.1	+65.8		..	+20	+6½

p Provisional • After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100 .. not available
ø Average of 11 months

Engineering sales and orders (SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX) up to January

Provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume index numbers of engineering sales and orders to January 1976, which are contained in the accompanying table, indicate some levelling-out in the rate at which new orders have been received from the declining home market. Overseas demand for engineering products, as measured by export net new orders, has weakened further in recent months, while sales to both home and export markets have continued to decline. Order books have been shortening steadily, reflecting the low levels of new orders compared with sales.

The volume of total sales in the engineering industries fell by 2½ per cent in the three months up to January. During this period the trend of home sales declined by 3 per cent, while export sales only fell by 1 per cent.

Latest trend estimates suggest that the rate of new ordering for the home market has maintained its level over the latest three months. The statistics of new orders are erratic, however, and information for

Index numbers for the combined engineering industries (SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX) (a)

Volume index numbers: Orders-on-hand. December 1970 unadjusted = 100 Net new orders and sales, 1970 average monthly sales = 100

	Total			Home			Export		
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales
Trend estimates									
1974 April	137	115	110	134	108	111	145	131	110
May	138	113	112	133	108	112	147	126	112
June	137	112	113	132	109	112	147	120	114
July	137	110	113	132	108	112	147	114	116
August	136	107	113	131	106	112	146	108	117
September	134	104	113	129	103	112	144	104	117
October	133	100	113	128	99	111	142	101	118
November	130	97	113	125	96	111	140	99	118
December	128	94	113	123	92	111	138	97	118
1975 January	125	92	113	120	91	110	135	95	118
February	122	91	112	117	90	110	132	94	117
March	119	91	111	114	90	109	129	94	117
April	117	92	110	112	90	107	127	97	116
May	115	92	109	109	89	106	125	100	116
June	112	92	108	107	88	104	123	101	115
July	110	91	107	105	86	104	121	102	115
August	108	90	106	102	85	103	120	100	114
September	105	89	106	99	85	103	118	98	114
October	103	88	105	97	85	102	115	96	113
November	101	88	104	94	85	101	113	95	112
December	99	88	104	92	85	100	112	94	112
1976 January	97	88	103	91	85	99	110	93	112
Percentage change (b) Oct. 1975-Jan. 1976	−5.5	−0.5	−2.5	−6.0	−1.0	−3.0	−4.5	−2.5	−1.0
Seasonally adjusted									
1969	101	100	97	102	99	99	100	102	91
1970	100	99	100	100	99	100	100	100	100
1971	93	97	101	95	98	101	89	93	102
1972	99	103	101	103	108	105	90	91	92
1973	133	134	113	134	136	117	131	131	102
1974	128	109	111	123	105	111	139	118	113
1975	98	90	108	92	87	105	112	97	115
1974 1st quarter	136	117	108	133	109	110	142	135	105
2nd quarter	138	117	112	133	112	111	148	128	113
3rd quarter	134	106	114	130	106	112	144	105	117
4th quarter	128	97	112	123	94	110	139	104	117
1975 1st quarter	119	89	112	114	89	110	128	89	118
2nd quarter	113	94	108	108	92	106	123	101	115
3rd quarter	106	90	107	100	86	103	118	100	115
4th quarter	98	86	104	92	81	101	112	96	112
1974 October	133	102	113	128	99	110	142	110	119
November	131	94	112	126	95	110	140	94	115
December	128	94	112	123	88	109	139	108	118
1975 January	124	86	114	119	85	112	135	88	119
February	122	97	113	117	98	111	132	95	118
March	119	85	110	114	85	108	128	85	117
April	116	94	112	112	94	111	126	95	115
May	115	100	107	110	94	104	126	114	115
June	113	88	106	108	86	103	123	94	115
July	109	84	109	104	77	105	121	100	120
August	108	93	102	102	85	99	121	112	110
September	106	94	109	100	97	107	118	88	113
October	103	84	108	96	80	105	116	96	113
November	100	85	104	94	83	99	112	87	114
December	98	88	101	92	81	97	112	105	109
1976 January	97	90	103	90	90	99	109	90	113
Aug.-Oct. 1975 (av.)	103	90	106	96	87	104	116	99	112
Nov. 1975-Jan.76 (av.)	97	87	103	90	85	99	109	94	112
Percentage change (b)	−6.0	−3.5	−3.5	−6.0	−3.0	−5.0	−5.5	−4.5	—

(a) All figures are provisional.

(b) For orders on hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point.

later months will be needed before it can be said that the long decline of home new orders which began more than two years ago has indeed been halted. In the three months up to January, the trend of export net new orders fell by 2½ per cent; in consequence the volume of net new orders for both markets combined fell slightly.

The volume of orders-on-hand for both home and export markets fell by about 6 per cent between October 1975 and January 1976. The inflow of new orders in recent months has been insufficient to offset the recent rate of deliveries. As a result, order books have continued to shorten steadily.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the Monthly Engineering Enquiry relating to January 1976. The response rate of 81 per cent to the enquiry for January is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taking into account late returns now received for October, November, and December response rates for these months were 90, 88 and 85 per cent respectively.

When using the volume index numbers and trends shown in the accompanying table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the values of engineering sales and orders to constant prices become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the volume estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months and studies are currently in hand to ascertain the possible directions and magnitudes of any biasses, which may lead to revisions in due course.

Business Monitor PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders) is obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £2.22 per annum. Volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and net new orders for total, home and export markets, for each of the three SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX (mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering respectively).

Regional selective assistance

The table below shows, on a regional basis, the applications received and offers made under Section 7 of the Industry Act for December 1975 and January 1976.

December	Applications received	Offers made	
Region	No	No	Value (£000)
Scotland	22	11	3,979
Wales	16	14	443
Northern	17	15	491
North West	15	13	1,455
Yorks/Humberside	32	15	808
South West	3	2	21
East Midlands	3	4	22
West Midlands	—	—	—
Total	108	74	7,219
January			
Scotland	10	5	435
Wales	12	7	2,305
Northern	12	8	237
North West	13	14	326
Yorks/Humberside	16	5	212
South West	4	7	126
East Midlands	5	2	201
West Midlands	—	1	11
Total	72	49	3,853

Index of retail prices for March

The index of retail prices for all items for 16 March, 1976 was 150.6 (15 January 1974 = 100). This represents an increase of 0.5 per cent on February 1976 (149.8) and of 21.2 per cent on March 1975 (124.3).

The rise in the index in March was due to higher average prices for seasonal foods, chiefly potatoes and other fresh vegetables and to smaller increases over a wide range of goods and services.

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half the final digit shown	* five week period
p provisional	• fifty-three week period

The movements for the main groups of the index are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 1

	All items			All items except seasonal food		
	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	Percentage change over 12 months	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	Percentage change over 6 months
1975						
October	142.5	+1.4	+25.9	142.8	+1.3	+10.4
November	144.2	+1.2	+25.2	144.5	+1.2	+ 7.2
December	146.0	+1.2	+24.9	146.1	+1.1	+ 6.6
1976						
January	147.9	+1.3	+23.4	147.6	+1.0	+ 6.6
February	149.8	+1.3	+22.9	149.0	+0.9	+ 6.7
March	150.6	+0.5	+21.2	149.5	+0.3	+ 6.1

TABLE 2 General index of retail prices

	Indices (15 January 1974 = 100)		Percentage change over the month
	17 February 1976	16 March 1976	
All items	149.8	150.6	+0.5
All items excluding food	149.1	149.8	+0.8
Food	152.1	153.8	+1.1
Seasonal food	173.5	181.2	+4.4
Other food	148.2	148.6	+0.3
Alcoholic drink	150.9	151.9	+0.7
Tobacco	162.8	162.8	nil
Housing	135.8	136.3	+0.4
Fuel and light	169.4	169.7	+0.2
Durable household goods	141.2	141.9	+0.5
Clothing and footwear	134.9	135.9	+0.7
Transport and vehicles	156.9	157.4	+0.3
Miscellaneous goods	154.2	154.7	+0.3
Services	154.9	155.7	+0.5
Meals out	148.3	149.5	+0.8

Index of industrial production for February

The provisional estimate for the total index in February 1976 is 101.4 and that for manufacturing alone is also 101.4 (1970 = 100).

Although the effect of changing holiday patterns around the end of the year has made interpretation more difficult, latest estimates suggest that the level of industrial output has been rising slightly in recent months.

Before any adjustment to allow for the use of delivery indicators it is estimated that the average levels of both the all-industries' index and that for manufacturing industry in the three months to February 1976 remained unchanged from the previous three months. The analysis by broad market sectors shows that the output of the intermediate goods industries rose by about 1½ per cent in the latest three months, while the output of both the consumer goods and the investment goods industries fell by about 1 per cent.

The use of series which measure deliveries rather than production resulted in the all-industries' index overstating the level of output in the second, third and fourth quarters of 1975 by, respectively, about ½ per cent, about 1 per cent and about ½ per cent. This suggests that output may have risen between the third and fourth quarters of 1975 by over ½ per cent more than the figures in the table indicate.

On a longer-term comparison, the all-industries' index in the latest three months was about 4 per cent below its level a year ago; the corresponding fall for manufacturing industry was about 5 per cent.

The index numbers for January for all-industries and for total manufacturing have been revised upwards by about 1 per cent because of the inclusion of later information, especially relating to the metal manufacturing industries. (Tables on next page.)

Index of industrial production

Seasonally adjusted — 1970 = 100

	Total all industries	All industries other than construction	Mining and quarrying	Manufacturing industries												
				Total	Food, drink and tobacco				Chemicals and allied industries	Engineering and allied industries						
					Total	Food	Drink and tobacco	Coal and petroleum products		Total	Mechanical engineering	Instrument engineering	Electrical engineering	Shipbuilding and marine engineering	Total vehicles	Metals goods n.e.s.
Weights	1,000	850	37	745	84	52	32	7	58	319	100	15	67	16	73	48
1971	100.4	100.0	100.0	99.6	100.6	99.9	101.7	103.3	102.1	99.2	100.2	100.8	101.7	96.6	99.4	93.6
1972	102.6	102.3	84.0	102.4	105.0	104.2	106.4	102.6	108.1	100.0	95.0	93.0	110.2	91.8	103.7	95.7
1973	110.2	110.7	92.4	110.9	109.4	106.4	114.2	110.0	121.2	107.8	103.4	101.7	125.2	95.1	105.1	103.1
1974	106.1	107.5	79.0	107.8	110.0	104.7	118.8	106.0	127.7	105.6	103.4	104.9	120.3	99.4	98.6	102.6
1975	100.9	102.3	86.0	101.4	107.8	99.4	121.8	92.0	115.6	101.5	102.0	100.8	113.8	103.4	94.7	93.0
1974 1st qtr.	104.3	104.6	53.9	106.6	113.3	108.4	121.6	102.1	126.9	102.7	100.8	100.7	119.1	97.3	92.6	101.3
2nd qtr.	107.6	109.1	85.9	109.3	109.4	105.6	115.6	112.0	128.8	106.3	104.0	106.5	118.4	98.0	100.4	105.9
3rd qtr.	107.9	109.6	86.3	109.6	109.2	104.0	117.8	104.6	131.4	107.9	104.5	106.0	124.6	100.3	102.2	103.7
4th qtr.	104.7	106.6	89.7	105.6	108.1	100.8	120.2	105.5	123.9	105.4	104.3	106.5	118.9	102.0	99.1	99.4
1975 1st qtr.	104.6	106.5	87.3	106.1	109.2	102.3	120.5	94.4	118.7	106.6	105.4	104.8	119.7	103.1	101.2	101.0
2nd qtr.	99.8	101.0	85.1	100.0	106.4	99.2	118.1	92.3	112.0	100.8	104.1	105.9	112.3	103.2	90.6	91.1
3rd qtr.	99.5	100.5	82.9	99.9	109.3	97.9	128.1	92.5	112.8	100.0	100.0	99.1	113.1	102.9	94.4	89.3
4th qtr.	99.8	101.2	88.6	99.8	106.4	97.9	120.4	88.8	118.8	98.4	98.3	93.7	110.1	104.7	92.5	90.5
1975 Jan.	105.5	107.5	85	107.8	112	103	127	101	124	108	105	105	121	104	106	104
Feb.	105.0	106.9	87	106.7	109	102	120	94	119	107	106	105	120	103	101	100
Mar.	103.4	105.0	89	103.7	107	102	115	88	113	105	105	104	118	103	97	99
Apr.	101.1	102.6	88	101.4	106	98	120	92	114	103	105	107	114	103	96	93
May	99.1	100.2	85	99.1	106	100	115	96	111	99	104	106	112	103	85	90
Jun.	99.1	100.2	83	99.4	107	100	119	89	112	100	104	105	111	104	91	90
Jul.	100.1	101.2	82	100.6	109	98	128	88	112	102	101	101	113	103	98	92
Aug.	98.5	99.2	83	98.8	107	97	125	97	108	99	100	99	113	103	92	88
Sept.	100.0	101.1	84	100.3	112	100	132	93	118	99	99	97	113	102	93	88
Oct.	100.2	101.8	88	100.5	106	97	121	94	118	99	99	95	111	106	91	93
Nov.	100.2	101.8	89	100.5	106	97	120	86	117	99	99	94	110	104	95	91
Dec.	98.8	100.1	88	98.5	107	99	120	87	121	97	97	92	109	104	92	88
1976 Jan.	100.5	101.9	86	101.7	102	97	111	91	118	99	98	92	109	105	95	94
Feb.	101.4	102.9	86	101.4	103	98	110	91	121	99	99	93	108	105	95	90
% change latest 3 months on previous 3 months	+0.1	+0.1	−0.1	+0.1	−3.6	0.0	−8.3	−1.4	+1.8	−0.7	−0.8	−2.9	−2.7	+0.7	+1.6	−0.1
on a year earlier	−4.0	−4.4	−0.7	−5.3	−5.2	−3.8	−7.1	−9.2	−0.7	−7.7	−6.5	−12.4	−9.4	+1.7	−7.4	−9.4

	Manufacturing industries (continued)													Construction	Gas, electricity and water
	Metal manufacture			Textiles, leather and clothing				Bricks, pottery, glass, etc.							
	Total	Ferrous	Non-ferrous	Total	Textiles	Leather, leather goods and fur	Clothing and footwear	Total	Bricks, cement, etc.	Pottery and glass	Timber, furniture, etc.	Paper, printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries		
Weights	57	43	14	76	49	3	24	27	17	10	22	64	31	146	72
1971	91.3	89.8	95.8	102.3	100.7	103.0	105.4	107.7	106.3	109.8	103.0	97.3	99.7	102.9	103.9
1972	91.4	89.4	97.3	104.6	103.1	104.5	107.8	114.2	113.6	115.3	113.5	102.6	104.2	104.5	111.2
1973	100.0	97.3	108.5	110.1	108.6	101.0	114.6	127.9	126.8	129.5	132.6	112.1	116.5	107.6	118.1
1974	91.7	87.7	104.2	103.0	99.2	94.8	112.2	117.5	109.8	129.4	112.5	108.8	114.3	98.4	118.6
1975	78.6	74.2	92.2	99.2	93.7	92.2	111.6	108.5	100.5	120.9	110.7	96.8	104.0	93.0	119.3
1974 1st qtr.	91.0	86.3	105.4	100.2	98.0	96.7	105.3	118.6	109.3	133.1	117.7	108.8	112.8	102.3	110.0
2nd qtr.	91.5	86.5	107.1	107.5	104.9	100.0	113.8	120.8	114.3	130.8	116.3	112.4	118.5	99.4	117.7
3rd qtr.	95.0	91.7	105.3	105.4	101.2	94.9	115.4	117.5	110.7	128.0	110.9	109.9	117.4	98.4	121.0
4th qtr.	89.4	86.3	99.0	99.1	92.5	87.7	114.2	113.1	104.9	125.8	105.1	104.1	108.5	93.7	125.6
1975 1st qtr.	92.1	89.8	99.4	100.8	94.5	89.3	115.6	113.5	104.7	127.4	113.8	100.2	109.9	94.1	119.6
2nd qtr.	73.9	68.5	90.4	98.8	94.1	91.1	109.7	106.4	99.4	117.2	110.2	95.8	99.5	92.7	119.6
3rd qtr.	71.9	66.3	89.3	99.7	93.5	92.8	113.5	105.4	99.1	115.3	109.6	95.2	101.0	93.9	115.7
4th qtr.	76.5	72.3	89.6	97.4	92.6	95.7	107.5	108.6	98.8	123.8	109.1	96.1	105.6	91.3	122.4
1975 Jan.	92	87	107	101	94	89	119	114	107	125	114	100	114		114
Feb.	96	95	96	101	95	89	115	115	106	130	116	102	112		118
Mar.	89	87	95	100	94	89	113	111	101	127	112	98	104		126
Apr.	80	76	94	97	93	91	106	108	100	120	110	97	97		123
May	71	66	86	100	95	91	111	107	99	121	110	97	99		119
Jun.	70	63	91	100	95	91	113	104	100	111	111	93	102		117
Jul.	73	66	92	101	94	93	115	103	101	106	111	97	100		117
Aug.	74	69	88	100	94	93	113	105	95	120	109	94	94		112
Sept.	69	64	87	99	93	93	113	108	101	120	109	95	109		118
Oct.	80	76	93	99	94	96	109	109	100	123	110	98	102		122
Nov.	80	77	92	98	95	96	105	107	97	123	111	96	110		122
Dec.	69	64	84	95	89	96	109	109	99	125	106	94	105		123
1976 Jan.	89	85	98	105	98	96	118	109	100	124	110	96	113		112
Feb.	83	80	91	100	96	96	110	114	102	132	111	97	119		127
% change latest 3 months on previous 3 months	+4.4	+6.0	+0.5	+1.5	+0.6	+1.4	+3.1	+2.3	+1.0	+3.8	−1.0	−0.6	+5.5		−0.1
on a year earlier	−13.9	−16.5	−6.3	+1.1	+3.1	+8.3	−2.9	−2.7	−5.2	+0.6	−2.0	−5.4	+3.5		+3.3

Wholesale prices indices in March

Output prices

The provisional price index for the home sales of manufactured products rose by ½ per cent in March to 208.4 (1970=100).

The increase of ¾ per cent in the provisional index for manufactured goods other than food, drink and tobacco in March was the smallest monthly rise since April 1973. This index rose by 4 per cent in the first quarter of 1976, compared with 7¼ per cent in the same period of 1975.

Most of the indices for broad sectors of industry have shown rises of less than 1 per cent in March contributing to an overall increase of between 3 and 5 per cent in the first quarter of 1976.

Continued price rises for electrical machinery made the largest contribution to the increases of 1½ per cent and 5¾ per cent in March and the first quarter of 1976 respectively in the index for the electrical engineering industry. The new index for the bricks and cement industries has risen by 6½ per cent on provisional figures in the latest three months as a result of widespread price rises.

By contrast the index for the output of the paper industries has shown an increase of only ½ per cent in the first quarter of 1976.

Slightly higher prices for a wide range of products were responsible for an increase of ½ per cent in the index for products of the food manufacturing industry in March.

The decrease in the rate of inflation, measured over a 12-month period, for the output of manufactured products has continued. March's figure of 16¼ per cent compares with 17¾ per cent on revised figures, for February.

Input prices

The provisional index for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry rose by 3¾ per cent to 273.2 in March.

The rise of 4¾ per cent in the index for materials purchased by manufacturing industry other than the food, drink and tobacco industries was the largest since the increase in crude oil prices in January 1974. This increase was due to higher prices for a wide range of imported commodities and semi-manufactures. Most of the increase reflected the depreciation of the pound against major foreign currencies in March.

An increase in the price of coal for manufacturing industry was responsible for the rise of 4 per cent in the index for coal, gas and electricity, following a period of relatively stable prices.

While the indices for all sectors of industry showed increases in March there was wide variation in the size of the change. In Table 1, the largest increase, of 5¼ per cent was in the new index for the non-ferrous metals industry with sharp price rises for copper making the largest contribution. Dearer scrap was mainly responsible for an increase of 4¼ per cent in the index for the steel industries.

Further information

Correspondence about wholesale price index numbers should be addressed to Statistics Division 4, Room 610, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB. Telephone inquiries for price index numbers should be made to 01-215 3544 (Tables 1 and 2 indices), 3549 (engineering), 5216 (chemicals, steel, building materials, etc.), 3548 (textiles, clothing, timber, paper, etc.), 3173 (imported commodities).

The index for materials and fuel purchased by the textile industries showed the steepest rise, of 8½ per cent, in the first quarter of 1976. Higher prices for raw wool and raw cotton again made the largest contribution and mohair, which has doubled in price over the last six months, showed another steep increase.

Late information regarding the price of leather was responsible for revisions to the provisional estimates for the index for the clothing and footwear industries. This index rose by only ¾ per cent in March, contributing to a rise of 4¼ per cent in the first quarter of 1976.

The smallest quarterly increase, of 2¾ per cent, was in the index for the paper industries. The effect of the latest increase in the cost of woodpulp was partly offset by lower prices for this commodity in January.

The increase of 1¼ per cent in the index for materials purchased by the food manufacturing industries reflected higher prices for both imported and home-produced materials. This index has risen by 3 per cent during the first quarter of 1976.

Notes

1 Many firms in some industrial sectors review their prices in the first month of each quarter, and the effect is most marked in the first quarter of each year. In these circumstances it is necessary to make comparisons of periods twelve months apart to bring out changes in the underlying rate of inflation.

2 A new set of index numbers of materials and fuel purchased by individual sectors of industry (M.L.H. level or below) has been calculated and is published as Table 1(a). A number of new index numbers for broad sectors of industry have also been calculated and are included in Tables 1 and 2.

3 Several index numbers previously published in Tables 4(a) or 4(b) will now be published monthly in Tables 3(a) or 3(b). New procedures have been introduced recently to improve the reliability of the provisional index numbers calculated for individual commodities. Provisional index numbers for the most recent month will now be published for the indices in Tables 3(a) and 3(b).

Notes on wholesale price indices

1 Detailed notes on index numbers of wholesale prices were last shown in *Trade and Industry* of 9 April 1976.

2 The index numbers are constructed on a net sector basis. This is to say, the price movements used to compile the index for a particular sector of industry are only those relating to transactions between the sector and other sectors. Transactions between undertakings in the same sector are excluded. Thus index numbers for the whole of manufacturing industry are not weighted averages of sector index numbers.

3 All the index numbers are compiled exclusive of value added tax and (before its abolition) of purchase tax. Revenue duties (on cigarettes and manufactured tobacco, alcoholic liquor, matches and mechanical lighters) are included. The duty on hydrocarbon oils is excluded from output price series that cover these products (unless specifically noted to the contrary) but is included in series for materials and fuel purchased by sectors of industry.

4 Firm indices, at all levels of aggregation, include imputation for items for which there is no current price information. Provisional indices at high levels of aggregation, Table 1 and Table 2, also include imputation for items for which there is no current price information. Additional provisional figures will be published for those indices where there are insufficient returns to allow accurate imputation.

5 Revisions to firm index numbers will only be published if the revised indices are significantly different. These revisions will only be notified in the full version of the wholesale price index articles; ie those published in April, August and December of each year.

TABLE 1 Price index numbers of materials purchased

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1975				1976	1975						1976		
		1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr. p	Mar.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb. p	Mar. p
Orders III to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry:	220.9	225.6	239.3	256.0	265.9	221.9	241.4	243.2	252.2	256.7	259.0	261.0	263.4	273.2
	Materials†	225.9	228.7	243.4	261.2	271.7	225.9	245.7	247.7	257.2	262.0	264.5	266.6	269.2	279.2
	Coal (except for carbonising), gas and electricity	173.3	195.8	200.5	205.2	210.1	183.3	200.3	200.3	204.4	205.3	205.8	206.9	207.5	215.8
Orders IV to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	237.3	244.3	255.4	269.7	279.9	238.5	256.7	257.1	267.6	269.4	272.2	273.8	276.7	289.3
	Materials†	246.5	251.3	263.3	278.9	289.9	246.4	264.8	265.2	276.6	278.5	281.7	283.3	286.5	299.8
Order III	Materials and fuel purchased by the food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	187.4	191.5	206.2	224.1	234.3	189.8	209.0	212.5	217.5	225.0	229.7	232.2	233.4	237.2
	Materials and fuels purchased by selected broad sectors of industry														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	186.7	187.7	205.2	226.6 r	235.8	188.6	208.2	213.6	219.1 r	229.5 r	231.1 r	234.0	235.2	238.1
	Materials†	186.3	186.9	204.9	226.9	235.9	188.1	208.1	213.7	219.3	230.2	231.2	234.2	235.4	238.2
	Fuel	195.9	208.6	210.9	217.8	230.9	201.9	210.8	210.8	212.8	213.2	227.5	228.9	229.3	234.4
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	184.1	186.5	202.8	225.4 r	235.1	187.9	205.6	210.7	216.5 r	229.0 r	230.6 r	233.5	234.8	236.9
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	230.9	233.5	241.0	250.8	258.6	231.3	242.2	243.2	248.5	249.3	254.7	255.5	257.3	262.9
311 and 312	Steel industries	210.7	225.9	230.6	237.2	246.1	211.1	230.4	231.4	234.8	236.8	240.0	241.2	243.3	253.8
321 to 323	Non-ferrous metals industry	141.8	141.3	145.9	149.1	156.6	143.1	147.7	146.8	148.2	148.8	150.2	152.3	154.7	162.7
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering industries	197.6	206.1	211.4	217.2	226.1	201.7	212.0	212.2	214.5	217.5	219.5	223.2	226.3	228.8
Order IX	Electrical engineering industries	171.0	176.5	182.6	187.0	195.8	174.4	184.1	183.9	185.3	187.1	188.5	192.5	195.2	199.6
Order X	Shipbuilding and marine engineering industries	196.5	205.6	209.7	213.8	221.8	200.9	210.1	210.7	212.1	213.7	215.6	218.8	222.3	224.2
Order XII	Metal goods industries	217.6	220.7	224.6	227.3	233.7	219.8	226.5	223.2	224.8	227.9	229.1	229.9	233.7	237.4
Order XIII	Textile industries	189.4	198.6	204.0	214.9	232.8	190.7	204.2	205.7	210.1	213.7	221.0	227.8	230.6	240.0
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	176.1	179.4	184.7	189.4	197.1	176.4	185.0	186.2	187.7	189.5	190.9	194.4	197.7	199.2
461, 464 and 469	Bricks, cement, etc., industries	204.8	217.7	225.1	231.7	244.8	212.4	225.2	226.3	228.4	230.1	236.5	240.7	244.1	249.5
462 and 463	Pottery and glass industries	194.6	207.6	216.0	226.3	237.5	201.1	215.5	218.1	222.6	224.6	231.7	235.1	237.3	240.2
Order XVII	Timber industries	217.4	217.2	217.0	220.2	234.3	218.0	217.0	217.4	218.9	219.4	222.4	229.0	234.5	239.5
481 to 484	Paper industries	231.8	240.1	243.5	248.9	253.3	232.9	244.5	243.7	246.7	248.3	251.6	250.7	251.2	258.1
Order XX	Construction materials	194.7	203.4	209.5	215.4	226.8	199.6	210.2	211.6	213.1	215.4	217.6	222.9	227.5	230.1
Part of Order XX	House building materials	196.5	205.0	211.2	217.2	228.9	201.0	211.8	213.8	215.3	217.2	219.0	224.8	229.5	232.3

† Includes crude oil and coal for carbonising.
r = revision.

TABLE 1(a) Price index numbers of materials and fuel purchased by selected sectors of industry

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1975				1976	1975						1976		
		1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr. p	Mar.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb. p	Mar. p
361	Electrical machinery industry	184.4	191.6	196.7	201.5	211.0	188.4	197.7	197.9	199.6	201.6	203.2	207.9	210.8	214.3
362	Insulated wires and cables industry	131.6	134.5	139.9	143.4	151.0	134.3	143.8	142.6	142.7	143.6	143.7	147.5	149.9	155.7
364	Radio and electronic components industry	184.3	190.8	196.3	201.8	209.1	189.2	197.1	197.6	200.0	201.8	203.7	206.7	209.6	211.1
368	Domestic appliances industry	182.4	188.1	191.2	195.8	204.9	186.9	191.8	192.5	194.2	195.8	197.4	201.8	204.9	208.0
369	Electrical goods industries n.e.s.	180.6	183.7	187.7	192.6	200.3	185.0	188.8	189.1	191.2	192.8	193.9	197.1	200.1	203.7
381	Motor vehicle industry	198.2	207.0	212.3	219.1	228.6	202.6	212.5	214.2	217.0	219.1	221.3	225.6	228.9	231.4
411	Man-made fibres industry	197.3	207.7	212.1	221.7	230.4	201.1	212.7	212.7	220.0	221.4	223.7	226.1	230.3	234.7
414	Woollen and worsted industry	187.3	200.7	207.9	230.8	257.9	189.1	208.1	210.6	219.7	230.4	242.4	249.9	251.2	272.7
422/1	Household textiles and handkerchiefs industry	189.1	190.9	194.1	198.6	209.4	188.6	194.2	195.4	195.4	198.6	202.0	207.8	210.1	210.3
450	Footwear industry	174.3	177.3	184.0	189.1	198.1	175.7	184.0	185.9	187.1	189.1	191.3	194.6	199.4	200.2
481	Paper and board making industry	236.5	246.2	251.3	258.2	262.8	237.0	252.9	251.8	255.9	257.3	261.3	259.6	260.2	268.6

CHART 1 (LOG SCALE)

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY
(other than food, drink & tobacco)
the latest two months are provisional

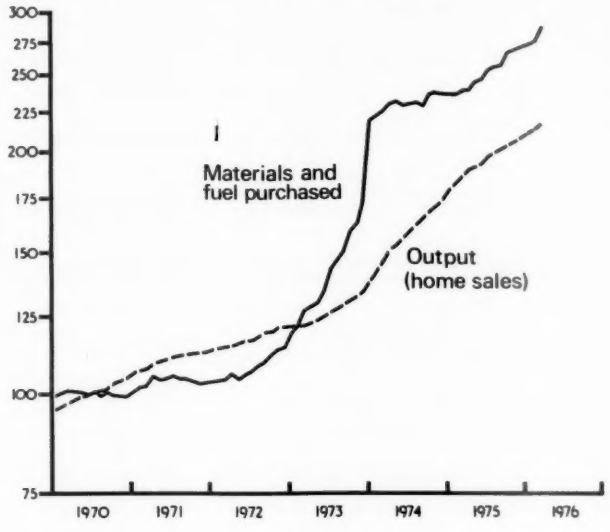

CHART 2 (LOG SCALE)

FOOD MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY
the latest two months are provisional

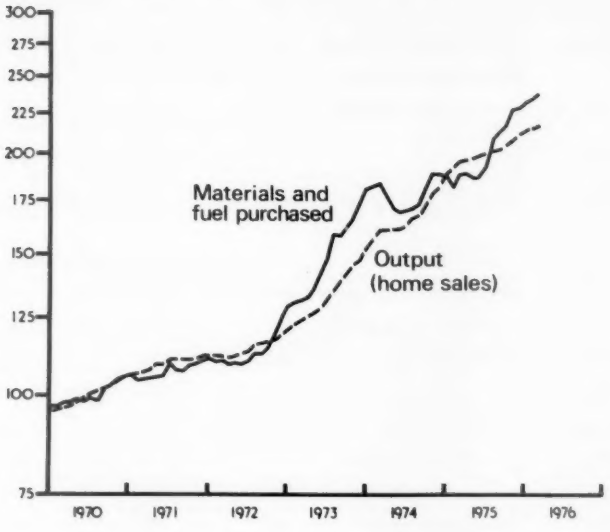

TABLE 2 Price index numbers of output (home sales)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1975				1976	1975						1976		
		1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr. p	Mar.	Aug.	Sep	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb. p	Mar. p
Order III to XIX	Output of Manufactured Products	176.0	186.3	193.4	199.1	206.8	179.2	193.5	194.9	197.0	198.9	201.5	204.8	207.2	208.4
Orders IV to XIX	Products of manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	182.8	192.1	199.1	205.4	214.3	186.4	199.3	201.0	203.4	205.1	207.8	211.9	214.8	216.2
	Output of selected broad sectors of industry														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	192.5	197.4	201.3	208.0	215.1	195.4	201.6	202.1	204.3	208.1	211.6	213.6	215.3	216.4
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	190.7	198.7	203.0	208.2	215.5	195.2	203.6	203.5	204.5	208.3	211.8	214.0	215.6	216.9
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	177.4	186.2	192.8	198.2	206.5	181.2	192.8	194.9	196.8	198.1	199.7	203.8	207.2	208.4
Order VI	Metal manufacturing	195.5	202.2	206.0	209.5	217.2	200.7	206.8	206.9	207.6	209.9	210.9	214.2	217.8	219.7
311 and 312	Steel industries	220.3	227.6	227.8	231.0	237.1	226.6	227.9	228.2	229.2	231.5	232.2	234.4	238.3	238.6
Orders VII to XII	Engineering and allied industries	177.2	187.6	195.3	201.8	210.0	181.2	195.7	197.0	200.3	202.0	203.0	207.0	210.8	212.2
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering	182.3	193.0	202.1	209.3	218.7	186.5	202.4	204.5	207.4	209.6	210.8	216.0	219.4	220.6
Order VIII	Instrument engineering	152.1	162.8	171.2	176.3	184.7	157.8	171.7	172.5	174.8	176.5	177.6	183.6	183.9	186.5
Order IX	Electrical engineering	161.2	170.9	177.2	183.6	192.2	165.1	176.8	180.5	182.2	183.8	184.9	188.7	192.5	195.5
Order XI	Vehicles	192.1	204.6	212.9	219.9	227.5	196.8	213.2	213.6	218.8	220.3	220.6	223.5	229.2	229.8
Order XII	Metal goods industries n.e.s.	185.2	193.8	200.3	207.8	215.3	190.3	201.4	201.7	205.5	208.2	209.6	213.4	215.5	217.0
Order XIII	Textile industries	172.9	175.7	180.7	185.1	192.7	173.3	180.8	182.1	183.8	185.0	186.6	190.5	193.0	194.6
Order XV	Clothing and footwear	156.8	160.9	166.0	170.7	176.6	158.1	165.3	168.1	169.2	171.2	171.7	175.4	176.0	178.4
441/449	Made-up clothing	153.0	156.9	162.4	167.1	172.5	153.7	161.6	164.7	166.0	167.5	167.7	171.3	172.1	174.2
461, 464 and 469	Bricks, cement, etc., industries	183.9	198.3	209.3	218.8	231.7	190.0	210.1	212.3	216.0	219.3	221.1	227.0	232.6	235.4
462 and 463	Pottery and glass industries	176.8	191.0	202.3	210.2	215.5	182.5	202.9	204.3	207.8	211.2	211.6	213.0	216.0	217.6
Order XVII	Timber industries	194.8	201.7	207.9	210.9	218.7	198.0	208.2	209.9	210.4	210.7	211.7	216.1	218.9	221.2
481 to 484	Paper industries	209.4	218.6	227.2	233.8	235.3	213.8	226.9	231.3	232.9	233.9	234.7	234.9	235.2	235.8
Order XX	New construction‡	210	220	228	237 p		210		228			237 p			

‡ Index of building costs relate to average for the quarter (*Department of Environment*)

TABLE 3(a) Commodities produced in the United Kingdom (as published monthly)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1975		1976		
		Mar.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb. p	Mar. p
101	Coal	294.0	306.9	307.4	307.3	345.5
102/1	Coated limestone roadstone	230.2	264.0	290.5	293.1	295.1
	Aggregates for concrete	166.0	196.3	198.0	198.2	198.2
103	Sand and gravel – ex pit or works	167.6	197.3	205.9	208.2	208.2
240	Tobacco	119.7	155.8	155.9	156.0	156.0
262	Motor spirit, Two star (including duty) ⌀	172.4	182.5	183.5	183.5	183.5
	Medium fuel oil (950 secs – including duty) ⌀	294.0	343.7	346.4	346.4	346.4
	Derv fuel (including duty) ⌀	149.9	166.7	167.9	167.9	167.9
263	Lubricating oils and greases	207.2	205.0	237.6	238.8	238.8
271	General chemicals	189.0	216.2	220.4	225.1	226.7
271/1	Inorganic chemicals	181.9	218.6	221.8	224.1	226.9
271/2	Organic chemicals	214.2	233.9	239.8	249.5	251.1
272/1	Pharmaceutical chemicals	171.2	195.6	185.6	189.1	190.8
272/2	Pharmaceutical preparations	150.3	175.2	177.2	179.1	179.8
273	Toilet preparations	156.1	174.7	180.9	181.5	183.6
274	Paint	198.6	212.4	218.5	219.8	219.8
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	177.8	189.0	189.6	194.9	195.1
	Polyolefin moulding materials	184.6	202.2	197.6	216.8	217.1
	Polyvinyl chlorides	182.7	202.7	206.0	206.7	206.7
279/3	Explosives, fireworks, etc.	181.9	237.5	239.5	241.1	241.1
311/2	Uncoated steel sheets (other than stainless and electrical sheets)	220.6	201.9	202.1	202.1	202.1
	Tinplate	216.9	217.6	217.6	233.5	238.5
	Finished steel (other than sheets, tinplates, forgings and castings)	230.6	239.4	240.1	244.3	244.3
	Steel plates (non-alloy)	253.1	254.0	254.3	254.3	254.3
	Steel sheet piling	240.7	241.4	241.8	265.8	265.8
	Heavy steel bars and sections	237.5	241.8	242.1	264.3	264.3
	Light re-rolled bars and sections	233.9	236.1	236.4	238.6	238.6
	Finished stainless steels	183.5	184.3	184.8	186.5	186.5
	Steel castings	196.2	226.0	229.4	229.4	229.4
	Forgings (other than drop forgings)	248.1	281.1	287.7	292.7	292.7
312	Steel tubes – other than electric conduit tubes	249.3	250.8	259.9	261.4	261.4
313/3 and 313/4	Iron castings	218.9	248.8	253.7	256.2	256.8
313/4	Cast and spun iron pipes and fittings	237.8	252.9	271.9	282.4	286.0
321	Wrought aluminium	165.2	183.1	190.7	195.7	198.2
	Aluminium: Rolled	157.4	173.2	180.8	187.0	187.0
	Extraded and drawn aluminium products – other than wire	156.4	180.2	188.1	194.6	194.6
	Aluminium: Castings	185.2	201.5	205.0	209.2	216.8
	Aluminium: Forgings	160.5	179.8	179.8	185.0	190.6
322	Brass ingots	118.3	119.2	121.9	123.6	123.6
331	Agricultural machinery	185.4	220.5	221.1	221.3	222.8
332	Metal-working machine tools	202.6	231.0	235.9	236.0	237.0
333	Pumps, valves, compressors, fluid power equipment	186.7	213.3	215.6	218.4	220.1
336	Construction and earth moving	176.2	207.8	213.7	220.8	222.0
368	Domestic electrical appliances	150.6	168.5	170.6	174.0	174.5
381/1	Passenger cars‡	174.9	194.6	197.5	203.1	203.1
381/2	Commercial and public service vehicles	203.4	232.4	235.0	242.1	242.2
	Commercial vehicles not exceeding 1½ tons gross vehicle weight	205.3	234.3	238.2	244.5	244.5
	Commercial vehicles and chassis over 1½ tons gross vehicle weight	203.0	231.4	233.7	241.1	241.3
	Public service vehicles	202.2	235.2	237.1	243.4	243.4
390	Engineers' cutting tools and parts: non diamond	155.6	184.9	185.9	187.5	187.5
	Hacksaw blades	156.5	171.6	172.0	172.0	185.9
	Engineers' cutting tools: diamond	147.5	155.7	159.5	159.5	162.7
	Engineers' cutting tools	155.1	182.2	183.4	184.8	185.8
391	Hand tools and implements	191.0	218.6	220.5	221.1	224.8
392	Cutlery and tableware	177.9	197.8	203.5	206.3	207.6
399/1	Metal furniture, office and works equipment	177.5	190.4	193.0	197.1	197.2
399/12	Plumbers brassware	153.0	173.3	173.3	173.3	175.0
411	Man-made fibres production	152.2	164.6	166.5	166.7	166.8
412, 414/5 and 415	All spun man-made fibres yarns	165.5	178.6	179.6	182.2	182.8
412	Cotton yarns, cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns and mixtures of both	176.7	198.4	205.4	210.5	210.5
413	Woven cotton cloth in the loomstate	189.1	192.6	201.7	204.9	205.0
	Man-made fibres fabrics in the loomstate	189.4	204.6	207.0	207.0	207.0
414/2	Yarns of wool spun on the worsted system	182.1	203.9	206.1	209.9	213.2
417	Hosiery and other knitted goods	150.4	156.2	159.6	161.7	162.5
419	Carpets and rugs	170.3	192.4	197.7	201.1	201.7
429/1	Asbestos manufactures	159.9	180.9	188.8	193.0	193.0
431/1	Leather for footwear	155.5	169.7	174.3	183.1	183.1
450	Footwear – including rubber footwear	168.9	181.9	185.0	185.2	187.6
461/1	Refractory goods including bricks	200.2	224.9	227.3	234.7	237.8
461/2	Non-refractory goods, including building bricks	197.8	222.2	229.8	233.7	240.4
	Engineering bricks – *delivered*	223.2	252.3	277.9	280.2	280.2
463/1	Flat glass (including safety and silvered glass)	169.4	216.0	215.4	218.7	218.7
	Glazing sheet and plate glass	146.0	188.2	188.2	197.8	197.8
463/2	Glass containers	190.6	218.6	219.6	219.7	220.0
464	Cement – *delivered in bulk*	200.7	228.7	231.5	243.4	243.4
469/2	Precast concrete products	176.6	213.9	217.4	222.8	224.9
	Precast concrete pipes – *delivered*	183.4	243.9	244.8	258.7	263.9
	Precast concrete manholes – *delivered*	168.1	195.3	196.0	207.6	212.8
471/1	Homegrown hardwood – sawn	223.6	227.4	227.6 p	230.5	230.4
471/2	Building joinery	219.4	235.7	239.7	240.8	246.8
472	Domestic furniture	177.1	194.9	198.5	201.2	201.7
473	Bedding, etc.	194.0	210.1	215.2	223.0	223.0

TABLE 3(a) *(continued)*

1968 SIC		1975 Mar.	1975 Dec.	1976 Jan.	1976 Feb. p	1976 Mar. p
481	Paper and board	213.7	226.6	226.5	226.4	226.5
	Printings and writings – excluding newsprint	209.3	217.0	217.0	217.0	217.0
482/1	Cardboard boxes, cartons and fibreboard packing cases	211.5	236.5	236.9	237.1	237.3
483	Manufactured stationery	204.8	234.4	234.8	236.3	236.3
484/1	Wallpaper	210.2	225.1	225.1	225.1	225.1
489	General printing, bookbinding, etc.	173.4	197.6	200.2	200.9	201.8
491/1	Rubber tyres and tubes	172.5	185.5	185.8	190.5	191.3
492	Linoleum and felt base	176.1	194.4	194.4	202.2	202.2
Part 399/472	Office furniture	204.5	218.5	222.2	225.1	226.8
Part 338/399/472	Office equipment and machinery	169.4	178.9	181.2	183.4	184.9

● Index based on scheduled outer zone prices for minimum bulk loads of 500 gallons (motor spirit 1,000 gallons) exclusive of rebates. p = provisional.
‡ Inclusive of purchase tax (before its abolition), VAT and Car Tax.

TABLE 3(b) Commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom

	1975 Mar.	1975 Dec.	1976 Jan.	1976 Feb.	1976 Mar.
Hides and skins	142.5	213.3	226.4	245.6	282.6
Non-ferrous metals:					
Aluminium, virgin ingot delivered	148.0	162.0	164.1	164.1	164.1
Copper‡	94.02	96.5	99.4	101.9	116.2
Lead‡	177.0	129.9	130.6	135.7	155.5
Nickel refined delivered§	158.3	198.8	199.2	202.0	201.4
Tin, ingot min. 99.75%‡	199.3	199.5	200.3	209.2	232.6
Zinc‡	269.3	275.1	276.3	276.2	304.9
Zinc§	281.4	304.8	307.1	307.0	319.4
Natural rubber	144.3	189.1	198.4	211.1	225.6 p
Sulphur, crude cif (for acid making)	262.0	256.3	297.1	297.1	297.1
Textiles:					
Raw cotton, all types	166.1	233.0	259.1	261.2	272.2
American types, cif Liverpool	165.3	238.8	267.8	270.2	283.0
Egyptian types, cif Liverpool	170.0	203.8	215.9	216.3	218.3
Raw wool – all types	188.4	233.6	242.7	246.8	263.2 p
Imported	194.9	235.3	243.7	245.6	262.2
Imported, merino	202.9	225.5	230.7	230.4	243.9
Imported, fine crossbred	190.3	229.7	241.4	248.3	258.8
Imported, medium and coarse crossbred	201.6	282.6	295.5	297.7	327.4
British types	152.0	223.9	236.9	253.9	268.5 p
Timber:					
Imported hardwood (ex-yard or warf)	228.7	242.0	245.8	249.4 p	256.1 p
Imported plywood (delivered to consumers)	227.2	218.9	223.2	234.0	241.0 p
Imported softwood (delivered to consumers)	244.7	235.4	246.2	253.8	262.0 p
Woodpulp, imported	269.2	299.8	295.1	295.1	306.9 p

‡ LME settlement price. § Producer's price. p = provisional.

TABLE 4(a) Supplementary list of commodities produced in the United Kingdom (as published April, August and December)

1968 SIC		1975 Oct.	1975 Nov.	1975 Dec.	1976 Jan.	1976 Feb. p
102	Stone and slate quarrying and mining	225.7	227.0	230.8	242.9	246.7
	Stone quarrying and mining	224.9	226.2	230.1	242.6	245.3
	Granite and other chippings, aggregate and roadstones	201.8	202.1	202.2	207.2	207.4
	Granite and other chippings	209.3	209.7	210.1	215.3	216.9
	Coated granite and whinstone roadstone	262.4	264.2	271.5	292.7	294.0
	Uncoated limestone roadstone and aggregates	213.7	214.9	214.9	216.8	219.9
	Uncoated limestone roadstone (excluding aggregate)	205.7	209.5	210.3	212.8	218.6
	Agricultural ground limestone	172.2	182.9	182.9	184.4	185.6
	Industrial ground limestone	197.6	199.1	199.1	203.4	209.6
	Granite and limestone roadstone	218.0	218.5	221.0	230.3	232.0
	Slates	252.9	252.9	252.9	252.9	290.8
103	Chalk, clay, sand and gravel extraction	197.9	200.2	200.2	208.2	210.1
	China clay	212.5	218.2	218.2	218.2	218.2
	Sand and gravel – delivered	169.0	170.6	171.3	177.4	180.1
	Moulding sand	184.6	184.6	186.4	193.5	193.5
109	Salt	180.8	196.9	198.1	198.1	198.1
211	Flour for bread making	259.8	259.8	259.8	259.8	260.6
216	Sugar – bulk granulated	279.1	286.0	286.0	287.4	288.7
217	Chocolate and sugar confectionery	215.7	215.8	216.6	222.7	227.0
221	Vegetable and animal oils and fats	205.5	200.3	206.2	207.7	207.7
231	Beer	152.7	155.6	156.5	157.5	157.5
240	Cigarettes	153.6	154.1	155.1	155.2	155.3
	Pipe tobacco	161.5	162.1	163.0	163.0	163.3
271/1	Caustic soda, soda ash and other sodium compounds	260.0	261.5	264.2	269.4	269.5
	Caustic soda	242.1	242.1	242.1	242.1	242.1
	Soda ash	282.5	282.5	288.5	293.4	293.4
	Other sodium compounds	253.6	258.5	260.4	272.0	272.3
	Inorganic chemicals other than sodium and sodium compounds	197.5	203.5	204.2	206.8	209.7
	Sulphuric and other inorganic acids	174.4	174.6	175.4	184.1	185.1
	Sulphuric acid	135.9	135.9	135.9	154.4	156.5
	Inorganic acids (other than sulphuric)	208.4	208.6	210.2	210.2	210.2
	Blacks, carbon and mineral	235.0	235.0	235.0	246.9	250.8
	Phosphorous and phosphorous compounds	353.6	353.6	353.6	353.6	353.6
271 2	Alcohols	230.5	231.6	232.5	235.5	257.7
	Coal tar products	304.1	304.1	304.1	307.3	337.1
	Halogenated, sulphonated nitrated or nitrosated derivatives of hydrocarbons	166.4	166.4	166.5	170.8	175.3

TABLE 4(a) *(continued)*

1968 SIC		1975			1976	
		Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb. p
	Phenols	254.3	254.3	254.3	254.3	255.8
	Nitrogen-function organic compounds	184.7	184.7	184.7	185.1	188.6
271/3	Bleaching materials	189.2	189.4	189.4	198.0	200.8
	Plasticisers	205.4	205.4	208.1	213.7	213.7
	Phthalate plasticisers	200.0	200.0	203.1	204.5	204.5
272/2	Anti-infective agents	160.4	160.4	160.4	161.1	164.3
	Antibiotic preparations	132.7	132.7	132.7	133.9	136.8
	Hormone preparations	119.8	121.1	121.1	123.9	128.0
	Preparations affecting metabolism and nutrition	171.9	177.4	177.4	177.9	177.9
	Preparations affecting the nervous system	168.1	170.8	172.3	173.9	175.8
	Analgesics	184.7	186.2	186.5	188.4	190.7
	Aspirin and compounds	192.4	194.5	195.1	195.6	198.9
	Other analgesics	169.4	169.4	169.4	174.1	174.1
	Anti-depressives	161.7	161.7	165.7	165.7	165.7
	Preparations acting on the cardiovascular system	132.5	134.9	138.0	154.4	154.7
	Preparations, acting on the alimentary system	217.8	217.9	217.9	218.4	218.8
	Laxatives	256.5	256.5	256.5	256.5	256.5
	Preparations acting on the respiratory system	201.3	201.7	203.7	209.0	210.9
273	Hair settings, lotion and spirits	149.7	149.8	149.8	154.9	155.1
	Soapless shampoos	165.0	165.3	165.3	167.0	167.2
	Dental preparations	181.0	181.0	181.0	183.6	183.7
	Preparations especially for men	187.7	187.7	187.7	193.8	194.6
	Make-up	185.6	186.3	186.5	194.1	194.3
	Face powders	187.2	187.2	187.2	195.3	195.3
	Lipsticks	193.5	194.5	194.5	202.1	202.1
	Manicure preparations	211.4	211.4	211.4	228.4	228.4
	Other make-ups	174.7	174.7	174.7	178.0	178.0
	Eye make-up	163.5	165.3	166.2	172.3	173.3
	Treatment creams	179.8	179.8	180.8	184.2	185.2
	Face creams	162.9	162.9	162.9	166.0	166.0
	Hand creams and jellies	200.5	200.5	200.5	208.7	210.6
	Face and skin lotions	186.1	186.1	189.4	189.4	190.9
	Talcum, baby and other dusting powders	187.6	188.6	192.0	198.4	200.5
	Depilatories and deodorants	153.2	153.4	153.4	160.6	160.9
274	Oil and/or synthetic-based, non-aqueous air-drying primers, surfacers and sealers	238.1	238.1	241.4	251.0	251.0
	Oil and/or synthetic-based, non-aqueous air-drying undercoats	206.1	206.1	207.9	214.1	214.1
	Oil and/or synthetic-based, non-aqueous air-drying finishes	204.8	204.8	206.5	213.0	213.0
	Emulsion paints	185.9	185.9	186.9	190.0	190.0
275	Soaps, detergents, candles and glycerine	188.3	188.5	190.0	199.5	201.0
	Glycerine	235.5	235.5	238.8	257.1	259.4
	Soap (excluding scouring powders)	200.0	200.0	200.5	206.8	207.5
	Toilet and shaving soap	213.8	213.8	214.8	217.3	218.0
	Soapless detergents	179.7	179.7	179.7	185.9	187.5
	Soapless detergents: pastes and other forms (excluding powders)	173.9	173.9	173.9	177.6	177.9
	Scouring powders	165.2	165.3	165.3	181.2	182.5
	Oleine, stearine etc.	177.1	179.0	188.8	213.5	214.3
276	Synthetic resins, plastics materials and synthetic rubber	190.5	191.4	192.8	194.0	198.8
	Laminated materials	233.5	236.6	236.6	236.6	238.0
	Phenolic and cresylic plastics – resins	215.5	215.5	215.5	219.8	224.6
	Phenolic and cresylic plastics – moulding powders	179.5	179.5	179.5	184.0	184.0
	Polystyrene and styrene copolymers – moulding powders	203.6	203.3	204.1	206.0	219.1
	General purpose polystyrene	242.9	243.1	243.1	244.9	265.3
	Expandable polystyrene and styrene copolymers	181.0	181.0	181.0	185.2	199.2
	Transparent cellulose film	186.9	187.2	187.6	187.6	187.6
277	Dyestuffs and pigments	185.5	186.4	190.1	195.8	199.7
	Pigments	202.0	203.6	207.7	215.6	218.6
	Inorganic pigments and earth colours	175.3	179.8	181.7	182.1	184.6
	White lead, dry*	153.7	153.8	153.3	154.7	156.3
279	Other chemical industries	200.8	202.8	203.9	206.0	208.1
	Principal products of the polishes industries	213.0	218.6	218.7	218.7	221.3
	Polishes mainly for domestic use	203.0	208.8	209.0	209.0	212.2
	Adhesives	202.7	202.7	204.5	207.3	208.6
	Formulated pesticides	205.8	211.9	212.2	216.3	216.6
	Surgical and medical dressings	190.4	192.4	192.4	195.1	196.7
	Sanitary towels	189.8	190.0	193.4	193.4	193.4
	Photographic paper and film and photochemical materials	182.1	182.3	182.1	185.5	191.6
	Sensitised paper, cloth etc.	182.4	182.8	182.3	184.8	191.5
311/2	Steel sheets	197.2	197.9	197.9	199.2	201.4
	Electrical steel sheets	205.4	205.4	205.4	220.1	237.0
	Stainless steel sheets	152.6	158.2	158.2	158.2	166.1
	Galvanised steel sheets	219.2	219.3	219.3	219.5	219.6
	Semi-finished steels	242.2	251.4	251.4	253.5	255.9
	Semi-finished steels for forgings (other than drop forgings)	243.8	253.4	253.4	254.9	254.9
	Semi-finished steel for alloy, and stainless products (except sheets and tubes)	209.1	223.8	223.8	223.9	224.0
	Semi-finished steel for drop forgings and stampings	244.8	261.6	261.6	261.9	261.9
	Semi-finished steel for tubes	251.5	257.1	257.1	260.3	264.1
	Semi-finished steel for forgings (other than drop forgings) (using public sector indicators)	243.1	257.4	257.4	257.8	257.9
	Steel wire rods	225.8	234.3	234.3	234.4	234.4
	Heavy steel rails and fishplates	294.5	294.5	294.5	294.5	284.4
	Steel plates, alloy	275.9	276.1	276.1	276.3	276.3
	Hot rolled steel strip	248.8	249.3	249.3	254.3	260.5
	Bright steel bars, non-alloy	220.9	235.9	242.4	242.4	242.4
	Cold rolled steel strip, non-alloy	229.1	229.1	229.1	229.1	229.1
	Alloy steel bars and rods, black (excluding stainless)	203.7	213.1	213.1	213.2	213.2

TABLE 4(a) *(continued)*

1968 SIC		1975 Oct.	1975 Nov.	1975 Dec.	1976 Jan.	1976 Feb. p
	High speed, tool and magnet steel	211.8	211.8	211.8	221.7	231.0
	Carbon steel castings	223.7	223.7	223.7	224.4	224.4
	Alloy steel castings, stainless and heat-resisting	203.4	203.4	203.4	207.3	207.3
	Other alloy steel castings	251.5	251.5	251.5	260.1	260.1
312	Steel tubes and fittings	249.1	249.3	249.8	258.6	260.2
	Non-alloy steel tubes, hot finished	265.6	265.6	265.6	274.9	276.3
	Pipe fittings	232.2	235.0	235.0	241.6	246.8
313	Iron castings etc.	245.3	249.2	251.9	256.2	258.4
	Automobile iron castings	234.9	235.7	235.7	238.1	241.1
	Engineers' castings (other than automobile castings)	233.7	242.9	244.5	248.1	249.7
	Malleable iron castings	254.2	246.6	257.2	262.3	263.1
	Cast iron stoves and grates etc.	273.6	276.7	293.9	294.0	294.0
	Building and domestic castings (excluding malleable)	265.4	267.5	276.0	278.2	278.3
321	Aluminium plates, sheets and strip	173.7	173.7	173.7	181.3	187.6
	Aluminium blanks, circles, discs and slugs	170.0	170.0	170.0	177.4	183.5
322	Copper tubes	115.3	115.7	115.5	118.2	120.9
	Copper sheet and strip	122.2	122.2	120.8	123.9	125.8
	Wrought brass	139.4	140.9	140.0	142.6	145.0
	Brass strip and sheet (and yellow metal condenser plates)	137.7	138.6	137.3	139.6	141.8
	Copper scrap No. 1 bright wire*	92.9	93.1	92.7	93.6	95.2
323	Magnesium ingots, electrolyte min. 99.8%*	251.2	251.2	251.2	267.2	267.2
	Titanium (alloy billets)	166.8	166.8	166.8	173.3	175.3
	Silicon min. 98% pure*	303.9	303.9	288.5	288.5	288.5
	Zinc sheets, 1-17 mm. basis*	292.7	303.3	303.3	303.3	303.3
	Bismuth§	145.0	146.4	148.2	148.2	148.1
	Cobalt metal, delivered UK*	206.9	206.9	206.9	206.9	206.9
	Lead sheet and pipe	148.9	144.7	144.2	144.1	145.4
337/2	Cranes	201.6	202.0	202.5	205.6	205.6
339/6	Portable power tools	185.7	186.0	186.0	192.8	195.5
354/2	Spectrophotometers	145.7	145.7	145.7	149.7	149.7
365	Broadcast receiving and sound reproduction equipment	143.8	144.5	144.5	144.5	144.5
	Gramophone records and pre-recorded tapes	176.9	177.0	177.0	177.0	177.0
	Gramophone records	182.5	182.6	182.6	182.6	182.6
	Other broadcast receiving and sound reproduction equipment	140.1	141.0	140.9	141.0	141.0
	Domestic television receivers, colour†	130.2	130.4	129.9	129.5	128.4
	Domestic television receivers, monochrome†	145.0	145.9	145.9	145.9	145.9
	Domestic television receivers†	141.7	142.5	142.3	142.2	142.0
	Radiograms	151.6	151.8	151.8	151.8	151.8
	Record players and tape recorders	137.6	139.2	139.0	139.2	139.4
368/1	Domestic electrical cooking appliances	169.1	170.0	170.0	177.0	180.6
	Electric cookers	163.9	165.0	165.0	174.3	178.1
368/3	Domestic electrical heating appliances	178.5	180.4	181.6	182.6	186.3
	Electric fires	166.6	166.6	170.1	172.8	178.4
	Water heaters, wash boilers etc.	216.0	226.8	226.8	226.8	226.8
	Electric storage heaters and other space heating apparatus	176.4	177.2	177.2	177.2	181.6
368/4	Electric vacuum cleaners and polishers	172.6	172.6	172.6	172.6	178.6
	Domestic electric flat irons	205.2	205.2	205.2	205.4	208.2
368/6	Domestic refrigerators, gas and electric	164.9	164.9	164.9	166.6	167.8
	Domestic electric refrigerators	170.3	170.3	170.3	169.6	171.3
369/5	Installation materials, domestic	181.9	184.2	184.5	188.1	192.1
391	Handsaws and blades (excluding hacksaws)	218.7	223.0	223.3	223.3	223.3
	Pliers, pincers and nippers	219.9	230.9	231.7	241.8	241.8
	Agricultural, horticultural and other heavy edged tools	202.5	202.5	202.5	207.8	208.9
	Carpenter's, builders' and other light edged tools	219.8	219.8	220.6	220.6	220.6
	Spanners and wrenches	217.0	219.7	219.7	219.7	219.7
392	Razors and razor blades	157.4	157.4	157.4	164.2	164.7
	Razor blades	157.9	157.9	157.9	164.9	165.4
	Knives, scissors etc.	215.1	211.0	213.0	219.5	222.4
	Machine knives, guillotine and shear blades	280.4	254.5	267.5	267.5	267.5
	Scissors and tailor's shears	201.4	201.4	201.4	204.3	209.0
	Spoons and forks	229.6	237.0	237.5	243.2	250.1
	Spoons and forks, silver plated	255.5	260.2	260.6	276.2	284.8
	Spoons and forks, stainless steel	212.4	212.4	212.4	217.1	227.0
393	Nuts and bolts etc.	248.8	249.4	249.4	263.9	266.2
	High tensile steel nuts and bolts	263.3	264.5	264.5	278.7	281.1
394	Wire and wire manufactures	185.4	187.3	188.2	189.6	191.7
	Wire and wire manufactures of iron and steel	211.9	214.4	214.7	214.7	217.1
	Iron and steel wire, single stranded	230.8	232.0	232.3	232.4	235.7
	Iron and steel wire, single-bright	229.6	230.3	230.6	230.7	233.7
	Iron and steel wire, galvanised	237.8	243.1	243.4	243.6	248.4
	Cable and rope	199.8	214.3	214.8	214.8	214.8
	Wire netting	201.6	202.2	202.2	202.2	206.3
	Chain link fencing	186.0	188.1	188.1	188.1	194.1
	Reinforcement fabric	170.4	170.4	170.4	170.4	170.4
	Wire and wire manufactures of brass and bronze	133.4	133.7	133.0	137.5	141.6
	Brass and bronze woven wire cloth etc.	170.8	170.7	170.6	170.7	170.6
	Wire and wire manufactures of copper	107.7	108.4	107.5	111.8	112.7
	Copper wire in coils H.C. wire, 3.15mm*	107.2	107.9	106.9	111.2	112.2
	Woven copper wire	164.1	164.1	164.1	164.1	164.1
395	Small metal boxes and containers	211.4	221.4	224.8	224.8	224.8
396	Silver bullion*	284.0	283.7	272.8	269.3	272.3
399/1	Metal non-domestic furniture	195.9	196.3	198.5	200.3	204.9
	Metal chairs	176.5	178.1	178.1	182.7	185.2
	Metal cabinets	194.5	194.5	194.7	196.1	201.2
	Metal storage cupboards, lockers shelving and racking	194.8	195.2	199.5	201.3	204.3

TABLE 4(a) *(continued)*

1968 SIC		1975			1976	
		Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb. p
	Kitchen and bathroom furniture	166.0	169.2	169.2	174.1	176.3
399/6	Domestic hollow-ware	195.8	196.0	196.0	204.4	205.2
	Domestic hollow-ware, aluminium	188.2	188.2	188.2	195.0	196.2
399/7	Industrial hollow-ware	210.1	210.1	210.1	212.1	213.1
	Steel drums	207.7	207.7	207.7	210.1	211.3
399/8	Slide and zip fasteners of metal	194.5	194.7	194.7	194.7	194.7
399/9	Domestic gas appliances	160.2	161.0	163.1	173.5	174.0
	Gas cookers	158.5	159.3	159.9	173.8	174.5
	Gas water heaters and wash-boilers	178.1	180.7	180.7	187.2	188.0
	Gas fires and space heaters	156.2	156.2	162.2	167.1	167.1
399/12	Catering equipment	184.4	184.9	190.3	195.7	199.9
	Domestic oil burning appliances	206.1	206.1	206.1	211.2	211.2
	Metal furnishings for doors and windows	210.3	215.3	216.3	221.7	222.2
	Fire extinguishing apparatus (hand operated, chemical)	180.3	184.0	184.0	191.4	191.6
412	Spinning and doubling on the cotton and flax systems	174.7	175.5	181.6	187.3	191.2
	Cotton yarns	207.2	208.3	220.4	233.0	239.8
	Cotton-spun mixture yarns of cotton and man-made fibres	137.6	138.6	142.0	147.2	149.1
	Cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns	176.7	177.0	181.6	182.9	186.5
	Cotton-spun regenerated man-made fibre yarns	211.3	210.0	212.7	215.3	215.6
	Processed yarns of man-made fibres	125.3	126.4	127.8	130.3	131.5
	Spun yarns of flax and man-made fibres	221.4	221.6	221.8	221.9	222.1
	Flax-spun yarns of man-made fibres	168.2	169.2	171.3	171.7	173.3
413	Weaving of cotton, silk, man-made fibres and linen	199.1	199.8	201.1	206.2	207.5
	Other plain cloths (grey), tea towelling, cleaning and dishcloths	186.5	186.4	189.6	194.8	196.8
	Woven linen in the loomstate	221.0	223.6	228.2	229.2	229.4
	Heavy linen	232.0	240.1	247.5	247.9	248.5
	Woven fabric of glass fibre	198.1	198.1	198.1	206.2	206.2
	Woven cloth of glass fibre – except insulation fabric	198.4	198.4	198.4	205.0	205.0
414	Woollen and worsted	201.1	205.2	207.7	210.2	214.8
414/1	Wool tops*	196.7	212.7	225.7	230.0	235.3
414/2	Worsted spinning	190.3	194.5	196.7	198.8	201.6
	Yarns of man-made fibres spun on the worsted system	169.7	171.5	173.2	173.5	174.0
414/3	Woven worsted fabrics	209.1	211.7	212.3	213.8	219.4
414/4	Wool rag*	208.6	209.6	210.9	215.6	225.0
414/5	Woven woollen fabric	208.5	212.7	215.3	218.0	221.0
	Blankets	202.5	202.5	204.1	207.4	208.2
	Other woven woollen fabrics	210.6	216.3	219.2	221.7	225.6
	Yarns spun on the woollen system	196.4	203.3	209.8	213.3	223.4
414/6	Pressed wool felt	223.0	223.0	223.0	239.0	239.0
415	Spinning and weaving of jute and spinning and weaving of other yarns on the jute system	198.8	199.2	200.2	207.1	207.4
	Spun yarns of jute and man-made fibres	181.2	181.2	181.2	190.9	191.9

1968 SIC		1975			1976	
		Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb. p
416	Rope, twine and net	230.9	229.9	230.1	232.4	232.8
	Cordage, cables, ropes and twines	234.4	233.3	233.3	235.0	235.5
	Nets and netting	183.4	183.4	186.3	196.9	196.9
417	Hosiery and other knitted goods – hose	138.0	138.0	138.0	140.3	142.9
	Men's hose	155.8	155.8	155.8	159.1	162.1
	Women's hose	144.4	144.4	144.4	146.9	150.5
	Children's hose	160.2	160.2	160.2	164.1	166.0
	Panti hose etc.	113.7	113.7	113.7	114.7	116.0
	Hosiery and other knitted goods – underwear	182.5	182.5	182.5	185.5	191.5
	Men's knitted underwear	182.4	182.4	182.4	187.5	190.4
	Men's knitted underwear, man-made fibres and mixtures of natural and man-made fibres	196.0	196.0	196.0	203.6	206.8
	Women's knitted underwear	183.5	183.5	183.5	183.5	193.9
	Children's and infants' knitted underwear	180.9	180.9	180.9	185.9	189.3
	Children's and infants' knitted underwear – cotton	178.9	178.9	178.9	185.6	190.8
	Hosiery and other knitted goods – knitted outerwear	158.5	158.5	158.5	161.5	162.8
	Women's knitted outerwear	157.8	157.8	157.8	159.5	159.5
	Knitted fabrics	150.6	152.4	152.7	156.8	158.2
	Knitted fabrics, weft	160.0	160.2	160.4	164.4	166.7
	Knitted fabrics, warp	140.2	143.7	144.1	148.4	148.7
419	Carpets	188.9	189.8	192.2	197.5	200.8
	Woven carpets	203.4	204.8	208.4	215.2	218.5
	Axminster carpets	202.1	204.1	207.7	214.8	218.2
	Wilton carpets	206.4	206.5	209.9	216.1	219.2
	Tufted carpets	160.2	160.2	160.2	162.6	165.8
	Rugs	193.1	200.7	200.7	203.2	209.9
421	Narrow fabrics	200.9	206.1	211.4	214.0	218.5
421/1	Elastic webs and cords	177.5	178.0	178.0	178.3	187.4
421/3	Non-elastic fabrics	214.7	222.9	230.4	234.5	237.1
	Petershams, galloons and ribbons	191.8	191.9	191.9	201.2	207.0
422	Made-up textiles	207.4	207.5	208.3	211.3	212.0
422 1	Household textiles and handkerchiefs	202.1	203.1	204.7	209.2	209.6
	Bed linen – sheets and bedspreads	196.4	222.9	197.3	198.8	198.9
	Tea towels, cleaning and polishing cloths	227.4	229.0	233.9	233.9	236.8
	Quilts and sleeping bags – down and other	148.6	145.9	145.9	145.9	147.1
422/2	Canvas sacks and bags and other made-up textiles	218.3	216.7	215.6	215.6	217.0
	Other made-up textiles of canvas, cotton, man-made fibres etc.	223.0	223.5	224.1	224.1	232.9
429	Other textile industries	174.6	174.9	176.2	181.6	184.3
429/1	Asbestos brake and clutch linings – replacement sales to factors	206.8	209.5	209.5	217.8	227.6
429/2	Hair, fibre and allied industries	165.0	165.0	168.4	169.8	170.1
	Needleloom felt and carpeting	167.6	167.8	167.8	170.3	170.8
432	Travel goods	192.8	192.8	193.4	207.1	207.1
441	Weatherproof outerwear	166.1	167.2	167.8	174.9	175.5
442	Men's and boys' tailored outerwear	178.5	179.3	179.6	180.3	180.8

TABLE 4(a) *(continued)*

1968 SIC		1975			1976	
		Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb. p
	Men's and youth's overcoats	134.1	134.1	134.1	134.1	144.3
	Men's and boys' suits	197.0	197.3	197.3	197.3	197.5
	Men's and boys' jackets	175.2	177.3	177.3	178.7	176.2
	Men's and boys' trousers	164.0	164.9	166.2	168.5	168.7
443	Women's and young girls' tailored outerwear	165.1	168.4	168.6	170.7	171.1
	Women's overcoats	169.1	172.6	172.6	174.0	174.0
	Women's suits, skirts and slacks – excluding jeans	159.3	164.6	164.6	168.9	168.9
444	Overalls and men's and boys' shirts	171.1	173.5	173.8	181.6	181.9
444/1	Heavy overalls, aprons and jeans	198.4	200.6	200.6	212.3	212.3
444/2	Men's and boys' shirts, nightwear, etc.	161.3	163.1	163.5	169.8	170.3
	Men's and boys' pyjamas	185.9	187.7	188.2	194.6	197.8
	Men's and boys' shirts	156.6	158.4	158.9	165.4	165.4
	Men's and boys' shirts, woven fabric	165.5	166.1	166.2	171.9	171.9
	Men's and boys' shirts, knitted fabric	148.4	148.4	152.1	159.3	159.3
	Men's and boys' dressing gowns	183.0	183.0	181.3	183.2	184.1
445	Dresses, lingerie, infants' wear etc.	150.6	152.0	152.0	153.0	153.5
445/1	Light outerwear	148.0	150.2	150.2	149.5	150.0
	Women's dressing gowns	114.3	114.3	114.3	114.3	114.5
445/2	Lingerie	161.6	161.6	161.6	167.0	167.6
445/3	Infants' wear	142.3	142.3	142.3	143.1	143.1
449	Dress industries n.e.s.	170.6	171.2	171.2	181.5	184.6
449/1	Corsets, brassieres and swimwear	167.7	167.9	167.9	180.6	181.4
	Corsets	172.9	172.9	172.9	186.4	187.1
	Brassieres	159.4	159.4	159.4	174.8	175.8
	Swimwear	168.2	170.1	170.1	170.1	170.1
449/2	Gloves	198.5	199.6	199.6	204.6	219.4
	Leather gloves	195.5	195.5	195.5	200.4	214.6
	Women's leather gloves	187.6	187.6	187.6	194.7	215.4
450	Boots and shoes with uppers of leather	175.8	179.3	181.7	184.8	185.0
	Men's boots and shoes with leather uppers	195.5	196.9	199.2	202.9	203.3
	Women's shoes and bootees with leather uppers	166.2	170.5	173.9	176.5	176.5
	Boys', girls' and infants' boots and shoes with leather uppers	166.9	171.8	172.0	175.7	175.7
	Boots and shoes with uppers wholly or mainly of materials other than leather	168.4	168.4	168.4	172.5	172.6
	Slippers and indoor footwear	189.7	189.7	189.7	193.4	193.4
	Sandals	210.9	210.9	210.9	210.9	213.8
461	Bricks, fireclay and refractory goods	222.9	223.2	223.1	229.0	234.0
461/1	Basic bricks	222.1	222.2	222.2	223.9	239.9
461/2	Building bricks and clay partition blocks	231.9	232.8	231.1	238.4	243.7
	Facing bricks, fletton (delivered)	194.2	194.2	184.4	184.4	184.4
	Facing bricks, non-fletton (ex-works)	246.9	247.8	249.8	263.6	274.1
	Common building bricks, fletton (delivered)	226.4	226.4	215.3	215.3	215.3
	Common building bricks, non-fletton (ex-works)	235.3	237.6	239.3	246.4	252.5
	Engineering bricks (ex-works)	248.9	248.9	260.2	272.3	275.2
	Non-refractory goods (other than bricks)	200.8	200.9	201.4	207.3	207.7
	Roofing tiles (ex-works)	268.8	268.8	268.8	298.6	298.6
	Fireclay sanitary ware	192.6	192.6	192.6	204.0	205.5
	Building bricks (delivered)	237.3	237.3	234.2	243.4	248.3
462	Pottery	198.9	199.4	200.1	202.5	208.6
	Vitreous china sanitary ware and pottery tiles	189.7	189.7	189.7	194.6	195.1
	Vitreous china sanitary ware	202.0	202.0	202.0	213.0	214.5
	Pottery tiles	180.1	180.1	180.1	180.1	180.1
	Domestic earthenware	203.5	203.5	203.5	203.5	211.6
463	Glass	210.6	215.0	215.4	216.4	218.2
	Glass (other than containers)	205.3	212.5	213.2	214.3	217.2
	Glass products (other than flat glass and containers)	202.9	210.7	210.7	213.3	215.9
	Scientific and machinery glassware (including tubing and rod)	211.7	214.6	214.6	217.3	221.6
	Illuminating glassware	171.9	188.1	188.1	191.7	194.0
	Domestic glassware	184.7	189.5	189.5	193.6	197.8
	Hand gathered domestic glassware	196.9	196.9	196.9	196.9	196.9
	Glass containers, for the food processing industry	219.1	219.1	219.1	221.1	221.5
	Glass containers, other than for food processing industry	218.5	218.5	218.5	219.3	219.4
464	Cement	213.1	228.7	228.7	231.6	243.4
	Cement delivered in bags	213.1	228.8	228.8	231.6	243.5
469/1	Abrasives	209.0	209.0	209.9	212.0	213.5
	Abrasive papers and cloths	231.7	231.7	234.1	240.2	244.5
469/2	Building materials, n.e.s.	214.0	217.9	220.4	226.9	232.2
	Pitch fibre pipes	194.5	194.5	194.5	202.8	202.8
	Precast concrete building blocks (delivered)	207.0	207.4	209.4	214.3	219.6
	Precast concrete building blocks (ex-works)	188.2	188.6	189.8	193.5	195.6
	Precast concrete – flags and kerbs (delivered)	160.7	161.3	162.5	166.2	166.9
	Asbestos cement products	213.1	220.6	221.0	228.5	244.8
	Sandlime bricks	230.0	230.0	230.0	239.0	244.7
	Lime products	214.4	214.4	214.8	228.6	228.8
	Agricultural lime	191.3	191.4	191.4	203.2	203.2
	Hydrated lime for building and industry	224.9	224.9	225.7	237.5	237.8
	Plaster board*	228.8	228.8	228.8	228.8	228.8
	Mastic asphalt	182.4	188.7	190.1	204.6	207.1
	Roofing felt	199.5	199.5	199.5	199.5	199.5
	Thermal insulation materials	212.9	214.6	214.6	220.2	222.5
	Fencing	208.5	209.7	209.7	209.7	214.2
	Miscellaneous building materials n.e.s.	235.4	236.7	242.3	260.7	262.7
471/1	Homegrown Hardwood: Ash – sawn	193.9	191.5	196.4	195.5 p	196.0
	Elm – sawn	179.5	179.5	179.5	179.5 p	181.3
	Beech – sawn	179.2	184.2	184.2	186.2 p	189.2

TABLE (4a) *(continued)*

1968 SIC		1975			1976	
		Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb. p
	Oak – sawn	270.4	272.4	272.4	272.6 p	276.4
	Pallet timber – sawn	230.2	230.2	230.2	225.4	228.5
471/2	All doors	223.6	223.6	231.3	232.3	232.8
	Windows and door frames	270.3	270.3	270.3	273.0	274.9
	Other building joinery including industrialised building	220.0	220.0	220.0	226.8	227.9
472	Furniture and upholstery	197.4	198.3	198.4	202.3	204.6
	Non-upholstered furniture – domestic	197.8	199.0	199.3	203.5	206.8
	Bedroom furniture	177.1	179.1	179.2	180.7	185.0
	Bookcases, bookshelves, bureaux, occasional furniture	193.9	194.5	194.6	200.2	202.9
	Dining room furniture	197.5	198.5	198.5	203.5	206.6
	Kitchen furniture	214.3	216.6	215.6	220.6	223.6
	Upholstered furniture	186.9	187.7	187.8	190.4	192.1
	Three-piece suites	181.9	182.9	182.9	183.6	186.2
	Fireside chairs, open wood arm easy chairs	196.9	196.9	196.9	205.7	205.9
473	Upholstered spring interior mattresses	206.5	210.8	210.8	215.3	229.0
	Divan sets	234.3	237.2	237.2	246.4	246.3
475	Wooden containers	202.8	202.8	202.8	204.3	204.5
479	Miscellaneous wood and cork manufactures	217.7	214.1	215.9	221.9	224.3
479/3	Wood wool – including manufactures	234.9	241.4	241.4	249.3	258.6
481	Paper and board – other than building board	226.4	226.5	226.6	226.6	226.4
	Coated paper	214.0	214.0	214.0	214.2	214.6
	Coated paper, off machine	221.1	221.1	221.1	221.4	222.0
	Coated paper, on machine	203.2	203.2	203.2	203.2	203.2
	Printings and writings – including newsprint	228.1	228.1	228.1	228.1	228.1
	Kraft wrapping paper	233.1	233.1	233.1	233.1	231.1
	Other wrapping paper	228.8	228.8	228.8	228.8	228.8
	Household and other tissues	237.4	238.6	238.6	238.6	238.6
	Industrial and special purpose papers	228.3	228.4	228.8	227.9	226.9
	Uncoated paper	228.4	228.5	228.6	228.4	228.0
	Uncoated board	229.7	229.9	230.2	230.2	230.4
	Packaging boards	232.8	232.8	232.8	232.8	232.8
	Boards for industrial and special purposes	221.0	220.0	223.0	223.0	223.9
	Coated board	223.4	223.4	223.4	223.4	223.4
482	Packaging products of paper, board and associated materials	242.4	243.0	242.5	242.5	242.7
482/1	Cardboard boxes	216.5	216.6	217.8	221.3	222.2
	Cartons	233.5	235.2	234.2	234.4	234.6
	Cartons – food	226.5	229.9	229.9	231.0	231.0
	Cartons – other	236.6	237.5	236.0	235.9	236.2
	Fibreboard packing cases	242.3	242.3	242.3	242.3	242.3
	Packing cases, solid, fibreboard	243.2	243.2	243.2	243.2	243.2
	Packing cases, corrugated	242.1	242.1	242.1	242.1	242.1
482/2	Packaging products of paper and associated materials	261.5	261.5	260.2	259.1	259.3
	Paper sacks	264.1	264.1	264.1	264.1	264.1
	Paper sacks – food	263.6	263.6	263.6	263.6	263.6
	Paper sacks – other	264.8	264.8	264.8	264.8	264.8
	Paper bags	286.7	286.7	282.6	276.6	276.0
483	Personal stationery	199.9	214.6	216.0	219.2	219.2
	Commercial envelopes	240.3	238.6	240.0	238.3	238.3
	Business forms	217.9	219.1	220.1	220.9	220.6
	Counter check books and forms for loose leaf binders	226.3	232.7	232.7	234.6	235.2
	Continuous stationery	224.6	224.6	225.8	226.3	225.8
	Stationery and scholastic books	227.6	227.6	227.6	229.5	230.6
	Loose leaf supplies	274.2	293.5	294.8	294.8	302.0
	Filing supplies	267.9	283.6	285.0	285.9	292.7
484	Manufactures of paper and board n.e.s.	221.9	221.9	226.2	227.1	227.3
484/2	Other manufactures of paper and board	220.4	220.4	226.7	228.0	228.3
	Cellulose paper products	214.4	214.4	220.4	221.3	221.5
	Doyleys	218.9	218.9	218.9	227.4	229.3
	Toilet paper	224.5	224.6	234.9	235.8	236.1
	Paper rolls and coils	217.0	217.0	217.0	217.0	217.0
491	Rubber manufactures	201.2	201.9	202.5	205.6	208.5
491/2	Rubber goods – other than tyres and tubes	216.8	218.2	219.5	225.5	226.5
	Hose of rubber and plastics	255.3	255.4	255.4	270.0	271.2
	Motor parts and accessories of rubber	238.3	240.8	242.3	242.3	244.7
	Machinery belting of rubber and plastics	287.8	287.8	287.8	316.1	317.1
	Miscellaneous rubber goods	176.9	179.9	179.9	183.2	183.2
493	Brushes and brooms	198.3	198.6	198.6	206.8	209.8
	Decorating brushes and rollers	187.6	187.6	187.6	187.6	187.6
	Toilet brushes	190.7	190.7	190.7	216.2	218.4
	Industrial brushes and polishing mops	202.4	203.6	203.6	203.6	212.8
	Household brushes and brooms	209.5	209.7	209.7	220.9	224.7
494	Toys, games, baby carriages and sports equipment	200.1	200.6	200.8	209.4	214.4
494/1	Toys and games	209.6	209.9	210.1	219.3	226.0
	Metal toys	232.7	232.7	232.7	258.9	261.5
	Metal toys, non-mechanical	233.2	233.2	233.2	262.5	264.2
	Dolls and soft toys	198.5	201.8	201.8	202.9	211.6
	Indoor games	188.9	188.9	188.9	197.1	197.2
	Plastics toys	188.8	188.8	189.1	190.7	198.1
	Pedal cars, scooters, toy perambulators and children's tricycles and bicycles	235.7	235.7	235.7	236.8	254.3
	Toy perambulators	226.8	226.8	226.8	230.5	250.6
494/2	Perambulators, folding baby carriages and pushchairs	193.6	197.4	197.4	203.7	206.7
	Perambulators	188.8	188.8	188.8	200.6	202.1
	Folding baby carriages	199.2	207.2	207.2	207.2	211.0
	Push chairs	191.4	193.7	193.7	202.3	206.1
494/3	Sports equipment	172.1	172.1	172.1	179.9	180.2
495	Miscellaneous stationers' goods	175.2	175.2	175.2	177.8	178.9
495/1	Pencils – non-mechanical	212.2	212.2	212.2	223.0	224.6
495/2	Stationers' goods – other than pens and pencils	181.8	181.8	181.8	182.7	184.8
496	Plastics products n.e.s.	181.9	184.1	185.4	188.0	189.5

TABLE (4a) *(continued)*

1968 SIC		1975 Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1976 Jan.	Feb. p
	Plastics products – other than components, accessories and semi-manufactured goods	182.5	184.8	185.5	188.3	190.5
	Building materials of plastics	198.8	200.8	203.3	203.8	206.4
	Water services' pipes and fittments of plastics	194.4	194.4	194.4	197.4	208.1
	Domestic, catering and furnishing goods of plastics	175.8	176.5	179.2	183.6	183.7
	Hollow-ware and hardware of plastics including kitchenware	173.2	173.2	176.8	181.5	181.5
	Plastics dress fasteners	174.8	174.8	174.8	174.8	174.8
	Plastics sleeving	169.4	169.4	169.4	177.1	177.1
	Packaging materials of plastics	177.9	182.5	181.0	185.1	186.8
	Plastics caps, closures, bottles and jars	180.2	184.2	184.2	192.1	194.9
	Plastics foam upholstery, cushioning and floor covering	187.4	187.4	187.4	187.6	192.1
499/1	Musical instruments	193.2	194.8	196.8	201.3	201.3
	Pianos	212.2	216.2	221.5	223.0	223.0

* Source of information: Trade publications. § Producers' price. † Excludes sales to rental companies.
p = provisional.

TABLE 4(b) Supplementary list of commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom (as published April, August and December)

1968 SIC		1975 Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1976 Jan.	Feb.
	Crude oil⌀	598.0	634.5	658.9	679.7	680.1
	Imported paper and paperboard (including newsprint)*	237.7	241.2	241.3	240.1	239.1
	Imported paper and paperboard (excluding newsprint)*	240.2	243.0	243.1	241.6	240.5
	Imported newsprint	227.0	233.4	233.4	233.4	233.4
	Timber, imported:					
	Mahogany	232.5	241.9	247.3	251.8	253.7 p
	Utile	275.2	288.1	294.5	306.7	315.6
	Beech	238.9	238.9	236.3	236.3 p	236.4 p
	Ramin	245.2	251.6	261.1	261.6	276.7 p
	Meranti	221.9	226.1	227.5	228.5	232.5
	Lithopone, 30% delivered	241.8	241.8	241.8	241.8	241.8
	Quicksilver, min. 99.99%, cif Europe*	23.6	25.1	22.6	23.2	27.2
	Asbestos, Canadian, fob Quebec*	201.7	205.7	244.2	246.9	249.0
	Iron ore, imported	217.0	219.7	219.7	217.5 p	217.5 p
	Bauxite, Min 86% $A_2l\ O_3$*	252.9	272.2	272.2	272.2	313.2
	Manganese ore 48-50% Mn grade, Max. 0.1%P., cif Europe*	309.7	312.7	316.6	316.4	316.2
	Tungsten ore, Min 65%, cif Europe*	130.4	128.9	132.6	135.2	139.3
	Phosphate rock	427.7	427.8	427.7	357.2	357.2
	Phosphate rock for fertiliser manufacture	436.5	436.6	436.6	363.3	363.4
	Hides and skins:					
	Native	159.2	204.2	233.6	247.6	276.9
	Imported	176.8	198.3	200.1	212.5	225.1
	Imported, wet	163.1	185.8	184.3	200.2	210.3
	Imported dry	171.6	182.4	186.7	185.1	200.5
	Raw silk	146.9	149.0	151.6	151.9 p	151.9 p
	Raw jute:					
	BWB grade, c and f Dundee*	129.5	129.5	131.3	131.3	131.3 p
	BWC grade c and f Dundee*	133.6	133.2	134.6	135.6	136.0
	BTC grade, c and f Dundee*	134.0	133.7	134.9	135.6	135.8
	BTD grade, c and f Dundee*	137.1	136.3	136.9	137.7	137.1
	Flax, imported	231.1	235.2	238.4	241.5	241.7
	Sisal	436.7	436.9	436.0	435.9	434.5
	Cotton, rags, home produced	112.6	112.6	112.6	112.6	112.6
	Waste paper, home produced	150.9	150.9	150.9	150.9	150.9
	Shellac, FOTN pure London spot price*	533.1	533.1	533.1	533.1	533.1
	Gum arabic, Kordofan, ex-wharf London*	217.8	219.9	222.6	222.5	222.4
	Tallow, $\frac{1}{2}$" red, cif UK*	217.1	228.3	222.6	222.6	228.3
	Rosin gum, WW Portuguese*	183.3	176.8	171.1	171.1	167.9
	Woodpulp, imported:					
	For use in paper and boardmaking industries	298.3	300.0	302.6	296.7	296.9
	Chemical	292.3	294.3	297.0	290.1	290.0
	Sulphite bleached	292.6	294.1	296.4	290.2	290.1
	Sulphate bleached and semi-bleached	285.1	286.6	289.4	284.6	284.5
	Sulphate unbleached, kraft	325.7	328.0	331.5	315.7	315.6
	Wood rosin, American FF*	226.2	226.2	226.2	226.2	230.1
	Castor oil, Brazilian No. 1 grade*	217.6	195.9	192.7	192.2	208.2
	Soya beans, US No. 2 grade, cif UK*	214.3	201.8	188.5	189.0	190.0
	Linseed, Canadian No. 1, cif UK*	307.8	285.1	287.1	285.4	284.7
	Copra, Philippine, cif Europe*	112.5	102.7	111.3	107.5	104.7
	Palm, kernels, Nigerian, cif basis-ports*	129.7	128.4	131.8	130.5	122.3
	Olive oil, Spanish, edible max. 1% ffa*	378.4	378.4	378.4	376.1	378.4
	Fish oil, cif, east coast UK*	157.1	159.1	158.7	156.6	154.5
	Palm oil, crude, London, spot price*	212.6	201.2	205.8	196.0	190.0
	Linseed oil, cif London/Hull*	330.5	304.5	308.3	291.4	289.6
	Coconut oil, cif Europe*	123.2	116.0	120.6	119.0	118.6
	Groundnut oil, London spot price*	270.9	249.3	235.6	235.0	251.0
	Lemongrass oil, Cochin, spot price*	141.1	150.5	150.5	178.1	180.7
	Citronella oil, Ceylon, spot price*	135.8	134.3	134.3	134.2	130.4
	Lime oil, West Indian distilled, spot price*	169.2	169.2	169.2	169.2	169.2
	Cloverleaf, Madagascan crude, spot price*	130.9	130.9	138.0	164.0	218.2
	Sandalwood oil, Indian, spot price*	79.6	78.9	78.9	75.4	81.2
	Peppermint oil*	160.1	153.8	152.2	150.6	148.4
	Geranium oil, Bourbon, spot price*	150.1	150.1	150.1	150.1	150.1
	Eucalyptus oil, Portuguese, spot price*	132.7	102.4	92.4	85.4	84.3

⌀ Based on unit value of imports at their time of entry.
* Source of price information: trade publications.
p = provisional.

TABLE 5 United Nations index numbers of world export prices(1)

1963 = 100

	Primary commodities											
	Total			Agricultural non-food			Non-ferrous metals			Primary commodities and non-ferrous metals (2)		
	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies
1973 1st quarter	156	181	144	153	177	141	174	201	161	157	182	145
2nd quarter	175	194	155	171	189	151	206	228	182	177	196	156
3rd quarter	199	225	169	203	229	172	242	273	205	202	228	171
4th quarter	221	260	197	208	245	185	267	314	238	225	265	200
1974 1st quarter	289	354	267	226	278	209	299	367	277	290	356	269
2nd quarter	292	341	260	225	263	200	342	399	304	296	346	263
3rd quarter	295	351	268	218	260	198	258	308	235	292	348	265
4th quarter	303	364	273	206	248	185	225	270	202	297	357	267
1975 1st quarter	294	343	253	199	233	170	220	258	190	288	337	248
2nd quarter	287	346	247	198	239	171	213	257	184	281	339	242
3rd quarter	297	391	270	205	270	187	218	287	198	291	383	265
4th quarter (3)	309	423	286	203	278	188	212	291	197	301	413	279
1976 1st quarter (3)	320	448	300	215	302	202	222	311	208	312	437	292

(1) Published by the UN in terms of US dollars. For convenience the index numbers are also shown in sterling and in terms of purchasers' currencies by converting the dollar index at prevailing exchange rates. (2) This combined index is not published as such by the UN. (3) Projections by Department of Industry.

Release dates of economic statistics to be published in May

This notice is issued by the Central Statistical Office on behalf of the Government Statistical Service and other organisations as a guide to the dates of publication of major economic series in May. The dates are those which departments, or other organisations concerned, are aiming at, and would normally expect to meet. Exceptionally, there may be a delay resulting from unavoidable statistical problems of collection and compilation. Further inquiries about individual series should be addressed to the source named.

Publication date	Series	Method of release*	Source
May			
3 Mon.	Central government borrowing requirement (Mar.)	Fin. Stats.	CSO/ Treasury
4 Tues.	CBI Industrial Trends Survey (Apr.)	PN	CBI
	UK official reserves (Apr.)	PN	HM Treasury
	Provisional figures of vehicle production and estimates of new car registrations (Apr. – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Capital issues and redemptions (during month of April)	PN	Bank of England
5 Wed.	Unemployment (Mar. – final)	Gazette	Department of Employment
	Employment in production industries (Feb.)		
	Overtime and short-time working in manufacturing industries (Feb.)		
	Stoppages of work due to industrial dispute (Mar.)		
10 Mon.	Hire purchase and other instalment credit business (Mar.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Retail trade (Mar. – final)	PN	Department of Industry
	Wholesale price index numbers (Apr.)	PN	Department of Industry
12 Wed.	London clearing banks' monthly statement (mid-Apr.)	PN	CLCB
	UK banks' eligible liabilities, reserve assets, reserve ratios and special deposits (mid-Apr.)	PN	Bank of England
13 Thurs.	Finished steel consumption and stock changes (1st qtr. – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
14 Fri.	Usable steel production (Apr.)	PN	BSC/ BISPA
	Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures incorporating the import and export unit value and volume index numbers and the terms of trade (Apr.)	PN	Department of Trade/ CSO
	Retail prices index (Apr.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Building Societies' receipts and loans (Apr.)	PN	BSA
	Index of industrial production (Mar.)	PN	CSO
17 Mon.	Retail trade (Apr. – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Turnover of the motor trades (1st qtr.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Turnover of the catering trades (Mar.)	PN	Department of Industry
19 Wed.	Basic rates of wages and normal weekly hours (Apr.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Monthly index of average earnings (Mar.)		
20 Thurs.	Car and commercial vehicle production (Apr. – final)	PN	Department of Industry
	Consumers' expenditure (2nd preliminary estimate) (1st qtr.)	PN	CSO
	Preliminary estimate of gross domestic product based on output data (1st qtr.)	PN	CSO
	Building society house prices and mortgage advances (1st qtr.)	PN	Department of the Environment
21 Fri	New vehicle registration (Apr.)	PN	Department of the Environment
23 Sun.	National Savings monthly progress report (Apr.)	PN	National Savings Committee
24 Mon.	UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-Apr.)	PN	Bank of England
	London dollar and sterling certificates of deposit (mid-Apr.)	PN	Bank of England
25 Tues.	Unemployment (May – prov.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Unfilled vacancies (May – prov.)		
	Slum clearance (1st qtr. – final)	PN	Department of the Environment
	Housing starts and completions (Apr. – prov.)		
	House renovation grants approved (Apr. – prov.)		
26 Wed.	Construction – new orders (Mar.)	PN	Department of the Environment
27 Thurs.	Unemployment (Apr. – final)	Gazette	Department of Employment
	Employment in production industries (Mar.)		
	Overtime and short-time working in manufacturing industries (Mar.)		
	Stoppages of work due to industrial disputes (Apr.)		
	Energy trends	PN	Department of Energy
	Bricks and cement production (Apr.)	PN	Department of the Environment
28 Fri.	Sales and orders in the engineering industries (Feb.)	Trade and Industry	Department of Industry
	Manufacturing industry's capital expenditure by regions (3rd qtr.)		

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Current account of the United Kingdom balance of payments for March

In March 1976 the current account is estimated to have been in surplus by £101 million. The deficit on trade in goods was £19 million, seasonally adjusted, made up of a deficit of £284 million in trade in oil (that is, petroleum and petroleum products – for details see Table 12) and a surplus of £265 million in trade in non-oil goods. The balance on services and other current transactions is estimated to have been running at a monthly surplus of about £120 million.

In the first quarter of 1976 there was a current account deficit of £78 million compared with £306 million in the previous quarter.

£ million seasonally adjusted

	Current balance	Visible balance: trade in goods			Invisible balance:
		Petroleum and petroleum products	Other goods	Total	Services and other current transactions
1975	−1,702	−3,114	−86	−3,200	+1,498
1975 1st quarter	−435	−766	−84	−850	+415
2nd quarter	−336	−689	+8	−681	+345
3rd quarter	−625	−795	−191	−986	+361
4th quarter	−306	−864	+181	−683	+377
1976 1st quarter	−78	−956	+518	−438	+360 (a)
1975 October	−92	−278	+61	−217	+125 (b)
November	−155	−272	−9	−281	+126 (b)
December	−59	−314	+129	−185	+126 (b)
1976 January	−53	−334	+161	−173	+120 (a)
February	−126	−338	+92	−246	+120 (a)
March	+101	−284	+265	−19	+120 (a)

(a) These figures are projections and are subject to revision as the relevant statistical information becomes available.

(b) One third of the appropriate calendar quarter's estimate. Monthly figures of invisibles are not available.

TABLE 1 Visible trade on balance of payments basis

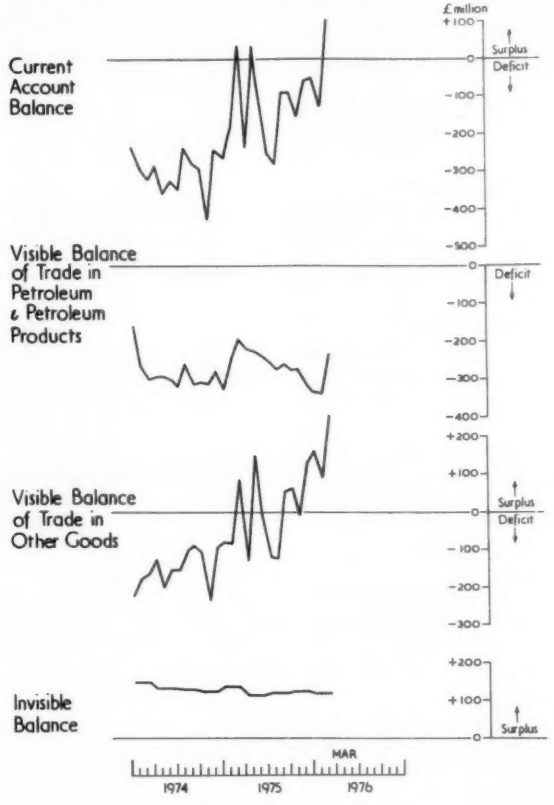
Seasonally adjusted values — £ million

	Exports (fob)	Imports (fob)	Visible balance
1974	16,895	21,159	−5,264
1975	18,772	21,972	−3,200
1974 1st quarter	3,481	4,778	−1,297
2nd quarter	4,007	5,373	−1,366
3rd quarter	4,222	5,475	−1,253
4th quarter	4,185	5,533	−1,348
1975 1st quarter	4,532	5,382	−850
2nd quarter	4,479	5,160	−681
3rd quarter	4,635	5,621	−986
4th quarter	5,126	5,809	−683
1976 1st quarter p	5,444	5,882	−438
1975 October	1,728	1,945	−217
November	1,637	1,918	−281
December	1,761	1,946	−185
1976 January	1,778	1,951	−173
February r	1,759	2,005	−246
March p	1,907	1,926	−19
Percentage change* 1st quarter on previous quarter	+6	+1½	

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

* Percentage change: latest three months on previous three months.

Analysis of the current account of the United Kingdom balance of payments



United Kingdom trade

on a balance of payments basis

seasonally adjusted (except Unit Value Index)

Value: £million fob

Indices 1970 = 100

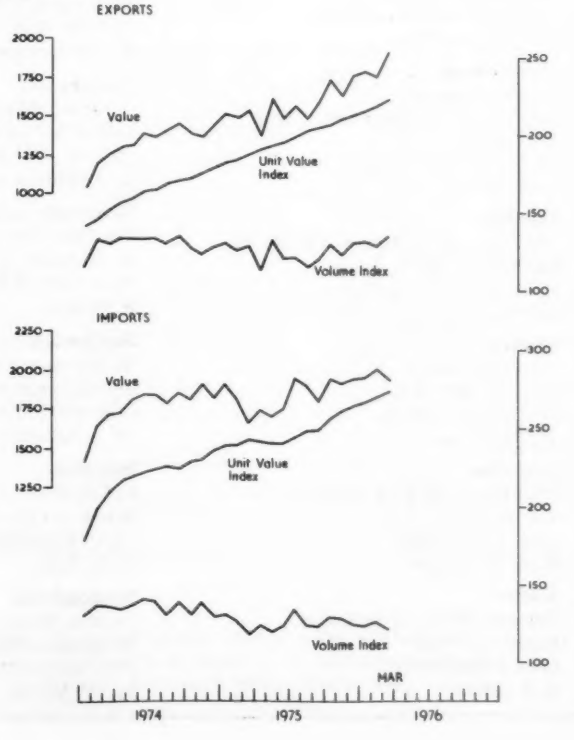


TABLE 2 Invisible trade ¶

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million

	Credits	Debits	Invisible balance
1974	10,018	8,404	+1,614
1975	11,155	9,657	+1,498
1974 1st quarter	2,453	2,011	+442
2nd quarter	2,461	2,064	+397
3rd quarter	2,465	2,073	+392
4th quarter	2,639	2,256	+383
1975 1st quarter	2,695	2,280	+415
2nd quarter	2,750	2,405	+345
3rd quarter	2,798	2,437	+361
4th quarter	2,912	2,535	+377
1976 January			+120
February			+120
March			+120

¶ See Note 1 (g).
* These figures are projections and are subject to revision as the relevant statistical information becomes available.

TABLE 3 Export and import unit value and volume index numbers on a balance of payments basis

Indices 1970 = 100

	Unit values (not seasonally adjusted)			Volume (seasonally adjusted)	
	Exports	Imports	Terms of trade†	Exports	Imports
1974	162.7	218.0	74.6	130.1	135.2
1975	198.5	245.7	80.8	124.9	125.6
1974 1st quarter	147.2	194.9	75.5	126.7	133.9
2nd quarter	159.9	218.7	73.1	134.0	137.5
3rd quarter	168.1	224.5	74.9	133.4	136.4
4th quarter	175.8	231.7	75.9	126.5	133.0
1975 1st quarter	184.9	240.5	76.9	128.9	125.4
2nd quarter	193.4	241.1	80.2	122.6	122.2
3rd quarter	202.4	247.1	81.9	120.0	127.4
4th quarter	210.1	260.4	80.7	128.3	127.2
1976 1st quarter p	219.1	269.7	81.2	132.2	123.5
1975 October	207.2	255.8	81.0	130.5	128.9
November	210.5	260.5	80.8	123.4	128.0
December	212.6	264.8	80.3	130.9	124.7
1976 January	215.6	266.3	81.0	131.9	124.7
February r	218.9	269.3	81.3	129.2	125.8
March p	222.8	273.6	81.4	135.5	120.1
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+4½	+3½	+½	+3	−3

† Export Unit Value Index as a percentage of the Import Unit Value Index.
p Provisional estimates.
r Revised estimates.

Exports by areas

on an Overseas Trade Statistics basis

£million cif seasonally adjusted log scale

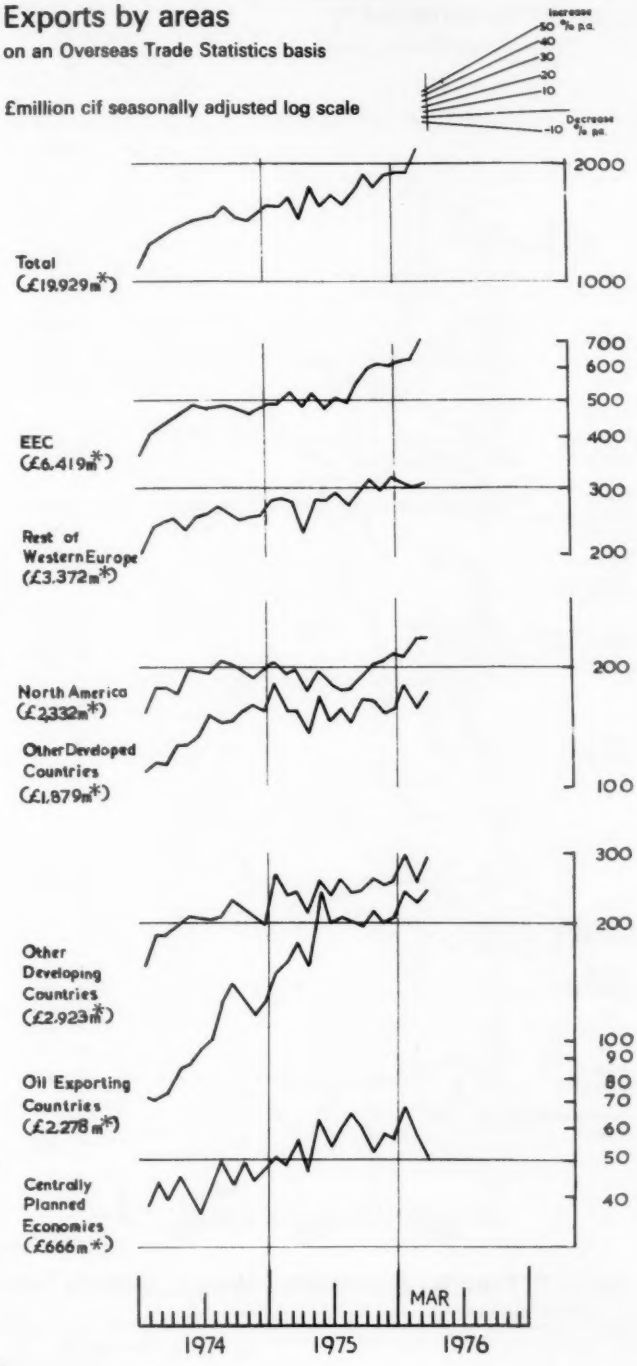


TABLE 4 Exports: areas¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

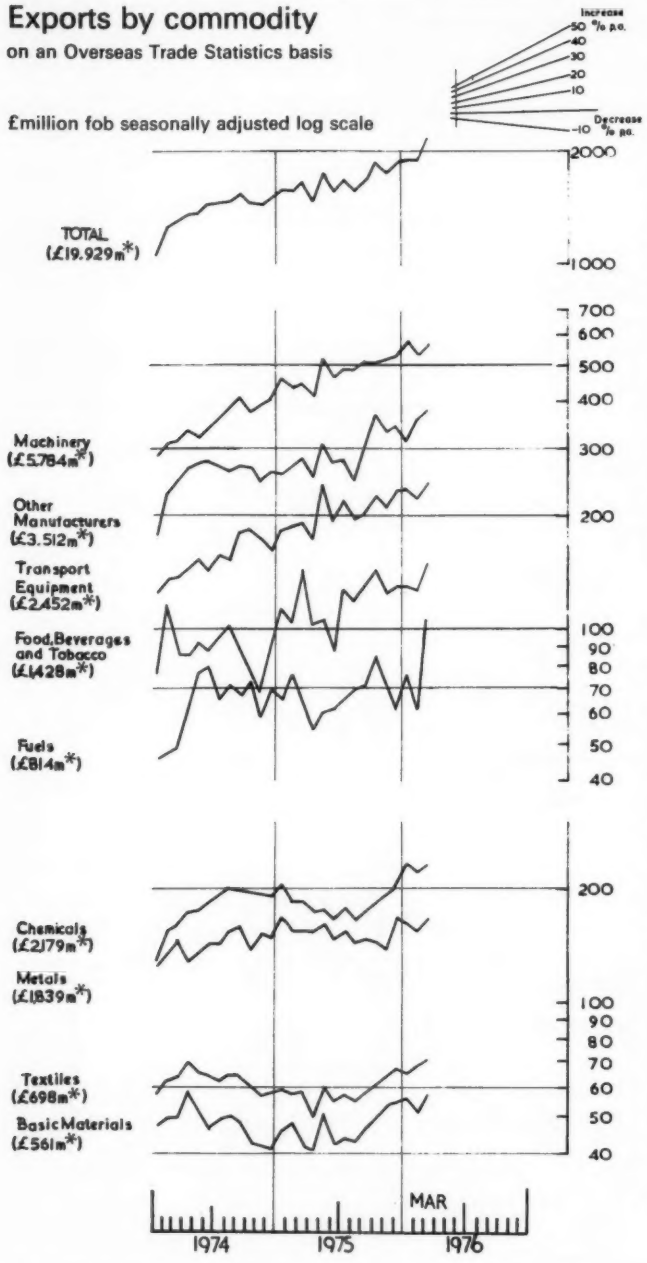
Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

		Developed countries				Developing countries		
	Total	EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Oil exporting countries	Other	Centrally planned economies
1975	19,929	6,419	3,372	2,332	1,879	2,278	2,923	666
1975 2nd quarter	4,744	1,494	782	553	451	585	699	163
3rd quarter	4,940	1,560	847	544	465	596	732	183
4th quarter	5,464	1,851	915	632	472	614	759	167
1976 1st quarter p	5,778	1,970	916	695	508	704	843	175
1976 January	1,881	626	307	216	177	239	294	67
February r	1,881	633	301	239	158	224	255	57
March p	2,015	711	308	240	172	241	294	51
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+5½	+6½	—	+10	+7½	+15	+11	+5

¶ See Note 1 (b). r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates.

Exports by commodity

on an Overseas Trade Statistics basis



VISIBLE TRADE

(a) Summary (figures on a balance of payments basis) (see Tables 1 and 3)

In March there was a deficit on visible trade of £19 million, seasonally adjusted; the value of exports was £1,907 million and the value of imports £1,926 million. The deficit was £227 million less than in February because of a rise of £148 million in the value of exports and a fall of £79 million in imports. These large movements in the monthly figures partly reflected erratic fluctuations in trade in precious stones and fuels. In terms of volume, exports rose by 5 per cent while imports fell by 4½ per cent. The terms of trade index was virtually unchanged between February and March with the export and import unit value indices both rising by over 1½ per cent.

In the first quarter of this year, the deficit on visible trade was £438 million compared with £683 million in the previous quarter, a reduction of £245 million. The surplus on non-oil trade increased by £337 million to reach £518 million. This more than offset the rise of £92 million in the oil trade deficit, from £864 million to £956 million.

Exports were valued at £5,444 million in the first quarter, 6 per cent higher than in the final quarter of last year while imports, at £5,882 million, were 1½ per cent higher. The volume of exports increased by 3 per cent while the volume of imports fell by 3 per cent. There was a small increase in the terms of trade index, the result of a 4½ per cent rise in the export unit value index and 3½ per cent in the import unit value index.

(b) Exports (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

(i) Area analysis (see Table 4). The value of exports to the developed countries in aggregate was 5½ per cent higher in the first quarter of 1976 than in the preceding quarter. North America continued to be the most buoyant market in this group with exports rising by 10 per cent. The value of goods despatched to the EEC increased by 6½ per cent, while the value of shipments to the rest of Western Europe was unchanged. Deliveries to the other developed countries (Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Japan taken together) rose by 7½ per cent. Exports to the developing countries in aggregate were 13 per cent higher. Within this group, shipments to the oil exporting countries increased by 15 per cent and exports to the other developing countries rose by 11 per cent. The value of exports to the centrally planned economies rose by 5 per cent.

(ii) Commodity analysis (see Tables 5, 6, and 7). In the first quarter of 1976 the value of exports of manufactured goods was 5½ per cent higher than in the fourth quarter of 1975, with prices rising slightly faster than the volume of deliveries. Within this broad category the value of exports of machinery rose by 7½ per cent, reflecting both higher prices and volumes. A rise of 12 per cent in the value of road motor vehicles despatched was partly offset by a fall in deliveries of other transport equipment: taken together, the volume of exports of these two commodity groups was little changed. Shipments of chemicals rose substantially, by 18 per cent in value, in the latest three months, largely due to a greater volume of shipments.

TABLE 5 Exports: commodity classes¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

					Manufactures									
						Machinery and transport equipment								
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment*	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures	Miscellaneous
1975	19,929	1,428	561	814	16,464	8,236	5,784	1,737	715	2,179	1,839	698	3,512	662
1975 2nd quarter	4,744	295	135	178	3,963	2,012	1,391	418	191	512	462	163	837	157
3rd quarter	4,940	373	134	207	4,079	2,112	1,486	451	165	516	447	170	825	169
4th quarter	5,464	396	156	219	4,518	2,208	1,564	456	210	579	451	190	1,045	179
1976 1st quarter p	5,778	404	164	243	4,765	2,378	1,681	512	190	683	484	204	1,048	194
1976 January	1,881	129	56	75	1,556	816	575	165	70	232	163	65	312	62
February r	1,881	126	52	62	1,573	769	540	168	56	221	155	68	357	69
March p	2,015	149	57	106	1,636	793	567	180	63	231	167	71	380	63
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+5½	+2	+5½	+11	+5½	+7½	+7½	+12	−9½	+18	+7½	+7½	+½	+8½

* Not seasonally adjusted. ¶ See note 1(b). r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates.

Exports of metals and textiles each rose by 7½ per cent in value mainly reflecting higher volumes. Other manufactures were little changed either in value or volume, in part reflecting a reduction in exports of precious stones from their very high level in the fourth quarter of 1975. The value of shipments of non-manufactures rose by 5 per cent over the period, with exports of fuels rising by 11 per cent.

(c) Imports (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

(i) Commodity analysis (see Tables 8, 10 and 11). The value of imports of food, beverages and tobacco in the first quarter fell by 15 per cent from their high level in the final quarter of 1975, almost entirely due to lower volumes. This in itself was more than sufficient to account for the fall in the volume of total imports. Imports of fuels rose by 9½ per cent in value but were little changed in volume. Imports of industrial materials rose by 9 per cent by value and 6 per cent by volume. Within this group, the value of imports of basic materials and chemicals increased by 19 per cent and 9½ per cent, respectively, with greater volumes of arrivals being the major factor in each case, and there was a rise of 4½ per cent in the value of other semi-manufactures to which price and volume increases contributed equally. Imports of finished manufactured goods in aggregate rose by 3½ per cent mainly the result of higher prices. Within this group, there was a large rise of 22 per cent in imports of road motor vehicles and other transport equipment, mainly the result of a higher volume, with the arrivals of two large aircraft in March contributing about half of the increase. In contrast the value of machinery imports fell by 5½ per cent, partly because of the absence of further deliveries of North Sea oil production installations. Imports of other finished manufactures increased by 8½ per cent with increases in both volume and price.

(ii) Area analysis (see Table 9). The value of imports from the developed countries in aggregate was 1 per cent higher in the first quarter of this year than in the previous quarter. There was a large rise of 11 per cent in imports from North America. Arrivals from the EEC were unchanged between the quarters and there was an increase of 4 per cent in imports from the rest of Western Europe. In contrast, imports from the other developed countries (Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Japan) fell by 16 per cent. Among the developing countries, imports from the oil exporting countries increased by 14 per cent while those from the other developing countries in aggregate rose by 5½ per cent. Imports from the centrally planned economies were 31 per cent higher.

INVISIBLE TRADE (see Table 2)

The balance on services and other current transactions is estimated to have been running at a monthly surplus of about £120 million, with monthly credits and debits of the order of £950 million and £850 million, respectively.

TABLE 6 Exports: volume indices Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

					Manufactures							
						Machinery and transport equipment						
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures
Weights	1,000	64	34	26	844	410	276	134	97	119	49	169
1975	129.8	155	107	93	130	133	136	128	142	102	105	145
1975 2nd quarter	127.2	133	103	87	129	133	134	130	135	103	100	143
3rd quarter	125.1	149	104	91	127	133	138	123	136	97	103	131
4th quarter	133.7	170	118	90	133	131	134	130	145	93	113	160
1976 1st quarter p	137.2	166	119	93	137	136	139	130	168	101	117	159
1976 January	136.5	163	122	87	137	143	146	134	178	104	115	143
February r	134.9	157	115	73	136	133	135	125	162	96	117	164
March p	140.2	179	119	120	138	132	137	131	164	102	121	170
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+2½	−2½	+1	+3½	+3	+3½	+4	+½	+16	+8½	+3½	−½

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

TABLE 7 Exports: unit value indices Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Not seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

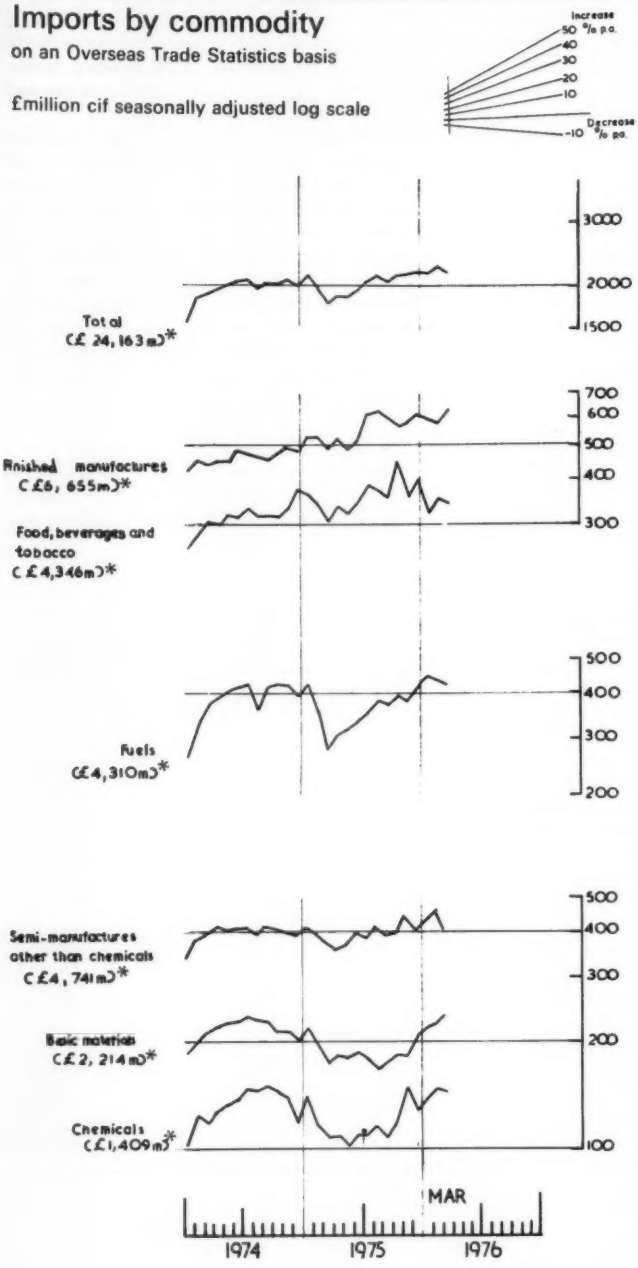
					Manufactures							
						Machinery and transport equipment						
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures
1975	198.3	178	198	439	193	196	200	189	209	194	177	180
1975 2nd quarter	193.4	176	199	421	188	190	192	185	209	189	177	172
3rd quarter	202.0	183	200	442	197	201	202	201	209	195	177	185
4th quarter	210.1	187	202	474	205	213	217	203	211	202	180	192
1976 1st quarter p	219.0	192	211	496	214	224	231	210	220	207	185	199
1976 January	215.4	185	204	494	210	219	225	207	215	207	182	197
February r	218.8	195	211	492	214	224	231	209	219	205	186	200
March p	222.8	197	217	503	218	229	236	214	224	209	188	202
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+4	+3	+4	+4½	+4½	+5½	+6	+3½	+4	+2½	+2½	+4

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

Imports by commodity

on an Overseas Trade Statistics basis

£million cif seasonally adjusted log scale



NOTES

1(a) Trade figures on a Balance of Payments basis. The seasonally adjusted import and export figures on a Balance of Payments basis are obtained by making various adjustments to the seasonally adjusted figures derived from those recorded in the monthly *Overseas Trade Statistics*. These adjustments are summarised in Table 13 of this article. Some are valuation adjustments; the principal of these is the deduction from the import figure of freight and insurance costs. The other adjustments relate to coverage, either to bring in items not in the Trade Statistics (for example on the import side ships built and delivered abroad direct to UK owners) or to remove items which are in the Trade Statistics (mainly returned goods and goods for processing and repair). The adjustment of imports to a balance of payments basis excludes the values of deliveries of US military aircraft (including spares and some missiles) but includes the payments for those imports which are mainly being financed by a special Exim Bank credit (the values involved are now small). All these adjustments are described in greater detail in the annual '*Pink Book*' *United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1964-74* (Table 4 and pages 64-67) and in an article in the issue of *Trade and Industry* dated 4 November 1970.

Since firm figures for the adjustments do not become available as quickly as the recorded trade statistics, the figures for imports and exports on a balance of payments basis in the latest months are at this stage preliminary estimates and liable to revision.

1(b). The adjustments described at Note 1(a) are made only for the monthly totals of exports and imports (Table 1) and the monthly figures of trade in petroleum and petroleum products (Table 12). They are not estimated for the area and other commodity analyses of trade. The values of total trade and the main components of exports and imports in Tables 4 to 11 are available only on the Overseas Trade Statistics basis. Whereas comment on total trade and trade in petroleum and petroleum products relates to figures for exports and imports on a balance of payments basis, analyses of the area and other commodity patterns of trade in this article are based on the figures on the Overseas Trade Statistics basis in Tables 4 to 11. The main components of trade are seasonally adjusted independently from the totals and in consequence do not always add exactly to the seasonally adjusted totals.

1(c) Visible balance. The visible balance is the difference between the import and export figures on a balance of payments basis obtained as described in Note 1(a) above. Since, as noted above, the import and export figures for the most recent months are provisional, it follows that the monthly visible balances for these months are also provisional and liable to revision.

The monthly figures for the visible balance are published only on a seasonally adjusted basis. Since the balance is the difference of two large and variable figures, it is itself liable to fluctuation and undue significance should not be attached to a single month's figure; it is more useful to consider the average balance over three or more months.

TABLE 8 Imports: commodity classes¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif

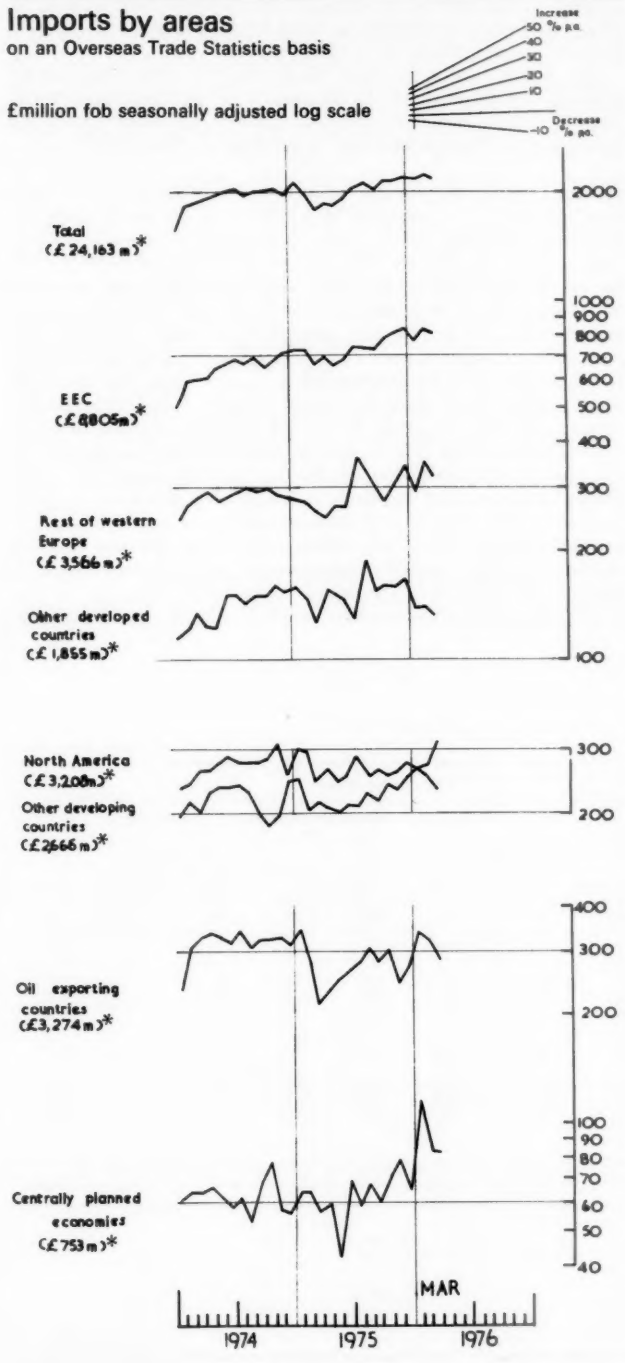
				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures						
									Machinery and transport equipment					
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment*	Other	Miscellaneous
1975	24,163	4,346	4,310	8,364	2,214	1,409	4,741	6,655	4,782	3,603	883	297	1,872	489
1975 2nd quarter	5,632	1,004	955	1,991	545	320	1,126	1,524	1,079	800	224	71	445	125
3rd quarter	6,191	1,119	1,110	2,041	519	331	1,191	1,836	1,364	1,056	229	70	472	105
4th quarter	6,462	1,208	1,190	2,203	568	394	1,242	1,757	1,246	955	234	60	511	106
1976 1st quarter p	6,622	1,023	1,303	2,406	677	430	1,298	1,822	1,266	902	264	95	556	93
1976 January	2,184	325	446	785	219	137	430	599	411	292	89	22	188	31
February r	2,254	352	436	831	222	148	461	590	411	299	83	23	179	33
March p	2,184	345	421	790	236	146	408	633	443	311	87	50	189	29
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter		+2½	−15	+9½	+9	+19	+9½	+4½	+3½	+1½	+5½	+13	+60	+8½	−13

* Not seasonally adjusted. ¶See Note 1(b). r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates.

Imports by areas

on an Overseas Trade Statistics basis

£million fob seasonally adjusted log scale



1(d) Trends. Even after allowing for seasonal influences, the sequence of monthly figures is usually too variable to give a satisfactory indication of the underlying trend. While it is possible to construct elaborate estimates of trend these cannot be applied to the most recent months, and a simple method of giving some guidance on underlying movements in the most recent past is to take averages of three months. Apart from occasions when major disturbances distort the flows of trade, the three-monthly average gives a quite good short-term guide and has the merit of simplicity.

1(e) Recording of exports. The present system for the documentation of exports aimed at securing their full recording was introduced in October 1971; the system, and the methods used to monitor the accuracy of the resulting figures, were described in an article in *Trade and Industry*, 15 February 1973.

Regular assessments of the quality of recording indicated that, from the beginning of 1972 until late 1973 there was no need to make adjustments to the export figures for a shortfall in documentation. Some errors in recording remained, whereby either the need to submit a document was overlooked or, on the other hand, two documents might be submitted for the same goods. The amount of these errors had been substantially reduced, and they more or less balanced out, leaving the total recorded figure of exports in each month virtually correct.

From the autumn of 1973 until the end of 1974, however, there was evidence of a slight deterioration causing a small net amount of under-recording of about half of one per cent. In view of this evidence an adjustment, varying between £6 million and £8 million, was made for each month between October 1973 and December 1974, with smaller notional amounts in July to September 1973.

The monthly monitoring and follow-up process takes some time to carry out, so that the evidence becomes available several months in arrear. The evidence now available for 1975 shows a distinct and sustained improvement so that the amount of net under-recording is again negligible. As a result it is no longer necessary to make any adjustment for net under-recording to the monthly export figures from January 1975 onwards.

Regular monitoring of the quality of recording will continue.

1(f) Timing. The figures for exports relate to documents received in the Statistical Office of HM Customs and Excise up to a few days before the end of the calendar month. On average export documents arrive at the Customs Statistical Office within a fortnight of the shipment of goods, so that the documents relate to goods passing through the ports in the month ending about the middle of the calendar month to which they are attributed. The figures for imports relate to documents received at the Customs Statistical Office up to the third working day after the end of the month. Importers are usually required to present their documents before they can obtain Customs clearance and remove the goods. Thus the import statistics correspond closely to movements through the ports during the calendar month to which they are attributed.

1(g) Invisible trade (services and other current transactions) covers the following items: Government services and transfer payments; all other services including sea and air transport, travel, and insurance, banking and other financial transactions; overseas

TABLE 9 Imports: areas¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values

£ million cif

		Developed countries				Developing countries		
	Total	EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Oil exporting countries	Other	Centrally planned economies
1975	24,163	8,805	3,566	3,208	1,855	3,274	2,666	753
1975 2nd quarter	5,632	2,043	787	768	456	751	620	170
3rd quarter	6,191	2,215	1,013	802	476	864	652	186
4th quarter	6,462	2,423	941	789	491	825	724	213
1976 1st quarter p	6,622	2,424	979	872	414	942	763	280
1976 January	2,184	777	297	265	140	337	269	114
February r	2,254	831	354	277	140	323	255	83
March p	2,184	816	328	330	134	282	239	82
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+2½	—	+4	+11	−16	+14	+5½	+31

¶ See Note 1(b). r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates.

income in the form of interest, profits and dividends; and private transfers. The monthly figures are inevitably less precise than those for visible trade for several reasons: the data are not available on a monthly basis (some are reported quarterly, others less frequently) and the figures are, therefore, essentially projections based on past trends though subject to modification for special factors (eg timing of quarterly EEC contributions and receipts) which affect the trend; revisions, affecting particularly gross credits and debits, but often the balance as well, are more frequent; and the gross figures themselves include a number of items which are appropriately recorded as the net profit or surplus arising on the transactions.

1(h) Trade in petroleum and petroleum products. Trade in petroleum and petroleum products (Table 12) accounts for almost all the trade in Fuels, Section 3 of SITC(R) which is included in Tables 5 and 8. Import figures are shown for crude oil and for the rest of the division which includes petroleum partly refined for further refining and petroleum products (eg motor spirit, lamp oil and white spirit, distillate fuels, residual fuel oils, lubricating oils and greases, etc.).

The figures of value and tonnage of crude oil imports in Table 12 are based on reports to HM Customs and Excise and have been seasonally adjusted with the same seasonal and length of month factors as have been used for the Fuels totals in Tables 5 and 8. These figures cannot be directly compared with the monthly import tonnages originating from the Department of Energy which are published in the *Monthly Digest of Statistics* and the *Digest of Energy Statistics*, as the latter are based on reports received directly from the oil industry and are unadjusted. Over longer periods the differences between the two sources are largely resolved.

The average value of crude oil per ton has been obtained by dividing the value of crude oil imports by the tonnage and will reflect not only changes in price but also changes in the commodity mix of imports due, for example, to differing qualities of crude oil.

1(i) Unit value and volume indices. A brief description of the way in which the index numbers on a balance of payments basis are calculated was published in the article giving unit value and volume index numbers for March 1971 in *Trade and Industry* of 26 May 1971. An article was published in *Trade and Industry* on 11 October 1973 introducing the series of import and export unit value and volume indices with 1970 = 100. The purpose of the index numbers is to measure the changes in price and volume of our imports and exports. Index numbers can be constructed in various ways, and the series used here are of the fixed base type. Thus, the unit value indices measure changes in 'price' of a fixed selection of trade headings (although in practice it is not specific prices which are measured but the average price of all the varying transactions taking place each month in the selected headings, reflecting different kinds of goods covered by each heading and different markets or sources of supply). Correspondingly, the volume indices measure, for the same selection of trade headings, what the change in the value of trade would be assuming no changes in the prices charged from those in the base year. Because the indices are base weighted, they do not take account

TABLE 10 Imports: volume indices
Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures				
									Machinery and transport equipment			
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Other
Weights	1,000	227	105	427	151	60	216	229	166	133	33	63
1975	124.4	98	89	113	78	122	135	183	182	176	203	186
1975 2nd quarter	120.0	92	85	111	79	112	132	174	170	164	208	184
3rd quarter	126.1	101	91	111	74	117	135	191	193	189	200	187
4th quarter	127.6	107	90	116	78	133	138	182	179	177	190	188
1976 1st quarter p	125.7	91	90	123	92	143	140	183	177	164	224	198
1976 January	125.7	89	91	123	91	141	141	186	176	164	206	212
February r	128.3	93	90	128	91	146	150	180	174	163	216	195
March p	123.0	91	87	118	93	142	129	182	180	164	252	188
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	−1½	−14	−1	+6	+18	+7	+1½	+½	−1½	−7½	+18	+5½

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

TABLE 11 Imports: unit value indices
Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Not seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures				
									Machinery and transport equipment			
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Other
1975	235.9	219	535	199	215	229	180	188	183	181	194	200
1975 2nd quarter	231.9	219	506	198	213	236	177	186	181	179	191	197
3rd quarter	237.6	217	536	200	213	230	182	196	192	189	204	207
4th quarter	249.5	223	591	206	222	234	187	205	199	197	210	220
1976 1st quarter p	258.8	228	636	210	226	239	190	213	207	204	221	226
1976 January	255.4	224	633	207	224	235	188	206	200	197	212	220
February r	258.6	228	635	209	227	237	189	212	206	203	220	227
March p	262.4	230	640	212	228	244	193	220	216	212	230	232
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+3½	+2	+7½	+2	+2	+2	+1½	+4	+4	+4	+5½	+3

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

of the changes in the pattern of trade since the base year, and consequently their product does not precisely account for the change in the value of trade expressed as an index. In practice, though, since the composition of trade changes little between consecutive months, the product of the changes in the indices will often approximate to the change in the value of trade between one month and the next. A full methodological article about the 1970-based series of indices was published in the April 1975 issue of *Economic Trends*. Adjustments have been made to the import volume index to include North Sea oil production installations, however no changes have been made to the base-weighted unit value index.

1(j) Definition of areas. The areas used in Tables 4 and 9 of this article comprise of the following countries:

EEC – West Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Italy, Denmark and Irish Republic.
Rest of Western Europe – Finland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Portugal, Austria, Andorra, Vatican City, Greece Turkey, Yugoslavia, Spain, Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Malta, Continental Shelf (Foreign Part).
North America – USA, Canada, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, Greenland.
Other Developed Countries – Australia, New Zealand, Japan and South Africa.
Centrally Planned Economies – Soviet Union, Poland, East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, China, North Korea, North Vietnam and Outer Mongolia.
Oil Exporting Countries – Abu Dhabi, Algeria, Bahrein, Brunei, Dubai, Ecuador, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sharjah etc., Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela.
Other Developing Countries – All other countries.

2 Overseas Trade Statistics

Detailed particulars of United Kingdom imports and exports for March with cumulative totals will be published on 29 April* and further analysis of the figures will be found in Tables 122 to 140 in the *Monthly Digest* for April†, due to be published in the second week of May.

* Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom, published by HMSO, price £4.75 (Annual subscription £64.44).

† Monthly Digest of Statistics, published by HMSO, price £1.45 (Annual subscription including Supplement of Definitions and postage £21.25).

TABLE 12 Trade in petroleum and petroleum products¶ On a Balance of Payments basis (Division 33 of SITC(R))

Seasonally adjusted

	Balance of Visible trade	Imports				Exports	
		Total	Crude oil			Rest of Division 33	Total
	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	million tons	Average value per ton £ fob	£ million fob	£ million fob
1974	−3,423	4,119	3,342	109.4	30.6	777	696
1975	−3,114	3,835	3,071	85.8	35.8	764	721
1974 1st quarter	−730	866	703	28.5	24.8	163	136
2nd quarter	−890	1,092	902	28.3	32.0	190	202
3rd quarter	−897	1,080	868	26.5	32.9	212	183
4th quarter	−906	1,081	869	26.1	33.4	212	175
1975 1st quarter	−766	943	753	22.1	34.2	190	177
2nd quarter	−689	843	698	20.7	33.7	145	154
3rd quarter	−795	985	806	22.7	35.6	179	190
4th quarter	−864	1,064	814	20.3	40.2	250	200
1976 1st quarter p	−956	1,178	928	21.4	43.1	250	221
1976 January r	−334	403	327	7.6	43.1	77	69
February r	−338	393	322	7.4	43.2	71	55
March p	−284	381	279	6.4	43.3	102	97
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter		+11	+14	+5½	+7	—	+11

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates. ¶ See Note 1(h).

TABLE 13 Derivation of the visible trade figures on a balance of payments basis

£ million

	EXPORTS				IMPORTS				
	Recorded	Seasonally adjusted†			Recorded	Seasonally adjusted†			
	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (fob)	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (fob)	Coverage adjustments	Balance of Payments basis (fob)	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (cif)	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (cif)	Adjustments to BOP basis: Valuation adjustments	Adjustments to BOP basis: Coverage adjustments	Balance of Payments basis (fob)
1974	16,600	16,600	−705	15,895	23,283	23,283	−1,652	−472	21,159
1975	19,929	19,929	−1,156	18,772	24,163	24,163	−1,604	−587	21,972
1974 1st quarter	3,617	3,637	−156	3,481	5,386	5,281	−418	−85	4,778
2nd quarter	4,188	4,145	−138	4,007	6,014	5,949	−421	−154	5,373
3rd quarter	4,258	4,430	−208	4,222	5,807	6,005	−415	−115	5,475
4th quarter	4,536	4,388	−203	4,185	6,076	6,049	−398	−118	5,533
1975 1st quarter	4,595	4,781	−249	4,532	5,882	5,879	−374	−122	5,382
2nd quarter	4,943	4,744	−265	4,479	5,844	5,632	−385	−87	5,160
3rd quarter	4,798	4,940	−305	4,635	6,010	6,191	−415	−155	5,621
4th quarter	5,593	5,464	−337	5,126	6,427	6,462	−430	−222	5,809
1976 1st quarter p	5,821	5,777	−334	5,444	6,830	6,622	−440	−300	5,882
1975 October	2,001	1,860	−131	1,728	2,319	2,137	−149	−43	1,945
November	1,694	1,751	−114	1,637	2,005	2,130	−136	−76	1,918
December	1,898	1,854	−93	1,761	2,104	2,195	−145	−103	1,946
1976 January	1,784	1,881	−103	1,778	2,140	2,184	−148	−85	1,951
February r	1,776	1,881	−122	1,759	2,137	2,254	−147	−102	2,005
March p	2,261	2,015	−108	1,907	2,553	2,184	−146	−112	1,926
Percentage change 1st quarter on previous quarter	+4	+5½		+6	+6½	+2½			+1½

† Components and totals are rounded independently. p provisional estimates. r revised estimates.

Activity in the textile and clothing industry

This article reviews activity in the textile and clothing industries during 1975. It is one of a series published at intervals in *Trade and Industry*.

Home Demand (Table 1)

After a moderate increase of 5 per cent in the first quarter of 1975, consumer expenditure on clothing gradually fell back towards the depressed level of early 1974 and the final quarter showed a fall of 2 per cent on the corresponding quarter of the previous year. It is likely that the substantial increase in clothing imports during the second half of the year did not effect any appreciable change in the level of demand and were mainly in substitution for the products of UK manufacturers (see also Tables 7-10). The pattern of expenditure on household textiles and soft furnishings closely followed that of the previous year, falling from a high level in the first quarter to the same low point in the final quarter.

In common with experience in other sectors, the January 1976 figures for retail sales by clothing and footwear shops show the usual transient improvement due to winter 'sales' but failed to attain the level of January 1975.

Output (Table 2)

With the exception of the hosiery and other knitted goods sector, results for the fourth quarter 1975 provide grounds for optimism that the continued downward trend of the textile cycle over the past two years may have been arrested. In the man-made fibre sector, output in 1975 as a whole fell back almost to the base level of 1970, after stabilising in the second and third quarters, but began to move forward again in the final quarter, which showed an increase of 17 per cent on the corresponding quarter of 1974. No significant changes were recorded in the cotton and woollen and worsted sectors during the last quarter of 1975.

Carpets have been least affected by the current recession and output in 1975 dropped by only 1 per cent compared with 1974.

TABLE 1 Comparison of textile and clothing output with some factors affecting demand

Index numbers 1970 = 100 (quarterly figures seasonally adjusted)

								1974				1975				Growth rate per cent per annum 1968/75	Growth per cent 12 months ended Q4 1975/ Q4 1974
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.		
Gross domestic product at factor cost (expenditure) based)	98.2	100.0	102.3	104.0	109.6	110.2	108.4	106.8	110.6	112.5	110.8	110.1	107.4	106.9	109.3	1.6	−1.6
Consumer's expenditure																	
All items	97.6	100.0	102.6	108.7	113.8	112.9	112.6	112.3	111.7	113.2	114.3	114.9	112.3	111.0	112.1	2.1	−0.3
Clothing	96.8	100.0	100.6	108.1	114.4	113.2	115.1	113.8	109.2	115.8	114.7	119.9	114.0	113.8	112.6	2.6	1.7
Household textiles and soft furnishings	104.2	100.0	105.2	115.9	122.8	117.0	118.3	124.6	113.5	116.3	113.5	128.7	113.5	117.6	113.5	1.6	1.1
Output of total manufacturing	99.6	100.0	99.6	102.4	110.9	107.8	101.4	106.6	109.3	109.6	105.6	106.1	100.0	99.9	99.8	0.8	−5.9
Output of textiles	100.2	100.0	100.7	103.1	108.6	99.2	93.7	98.0	104.9	101.2	92.5	94.5	94.1	93.5	92.6	−0.5	−5.5
Deliveries of made-up clothing	97.4	100.0	104.2	108.7	116.6	114.4	116.1	107.9	115.0	117.0	117.8	121.3	111.4	118.0	115.4	2.6	1.5

TABLE 2 Output

Index numbers 1970 = 100 (quarterly figures seasonally adjusted)

	1968 MLH	Weights 1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1974 1st qtr.	1974 2nd qtr.	1974 3rd qtr.	1974 4th qrt.	1975 1st qtr.	1975 2nd qtr.	1975 3rd qtr.	1975 4th qtr.	Growth rate per cent per annum 1968/75	Growth per cent 12 months ended Q4 1975/ Q4 1974
Man-made fibres	411	14.5	91.8	100.0	106.1	107.2	127.3	111.1	100.9	117.9	116.0	115.8	94.8	90.7	101.2	101.1	110.7	2.2	−9.2
Spinning and doubling on cotton system (a)	412 part	11.7	90.3	100.0	103.2	103.4	112.5	89.5	80.2	88.8	100.3	89.8	79.2	77.5	84.7	77.8	80.7	−0.3	−10.4
Weaving of cotton and man-made fibres	413 part	6.9	109.2	100.0	95.1	91.6	93.4	90.3	86.4	76.1	95.2	97.0	92.9	88.3	85.4	86.2	85.6	−3.2	−4.3
Woollen and worsted	414	17.6	109.6	100.0	93.0	97.7	97.5	86.7	77.6	85.6	93.8	88.2	79.0	79.4	79.6	76.2	75.1	−5.0	−10.5
Hosiery and other knitted goods	417	19.0	97.6	100.0	99.5	99.7	102.8	99.8	94.2	97.1	105.0	101.3	95.9	93.1	96.4	99.5	87.8	1.0	−5.6
Carpets	419	8.0	99.0	100.0	107.8	121.9	125.9	116.6	115.4	119.0	116.1	114.3	112.5	116.0	117.3	113.7	114.7	2.0	−1.0
(Order XIII) (b)	411-429	100.0	100.2	100.0	100.7	103.1	108.6	99.2	93.7	98.0	104.9	101.2	92.5	94.5	94.1	93.5	92.6	−0.5	−5.5

(a) Includes texturing of man-made continuous filament yarns.
(b) In addition to sectors listed above includes jute, rope, twine and net, lace, narrow fabrics, made-up textiles, textile finishing and other textiles industries. Their combined weight in the total index is 22.3 per cent.

TABLE 3 Production of man-made fibres

Million kilogrammes

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1974 1st qtr.	1974 2nd qtr.	1974 3rd qtr.	1974 4th qtr.	1975 1st qtr.	1975 2nd qtr.	1975 3rd qtr.	1975 4th qtr.	Growth rate per cent per annum 1968/75	Growth per cent 12 months ended Q4-1975/ Q4-1974
Staple fibre																		
Synthetic	124	135	170	166	177	221	196	178	53	53	53	37	37	48	44	49	5.3	−9.2
Viscose and acetate	173	166	172	170	185	204	160	138	51	50	30	29	36	39	32	31	−3.2	−13.7
Total	297	301	342	336	362	425	356	316	104	103	83	66	73	87	76	80	0.9	−11.2
Continuous filament yarn																		
Synthetic	144	156	167	191	196	233	200	185	52	51	49	48	42	46	44	53	3.6	−7.5
Viscose and acetate	98	97	91	85	68	73	72	63	18	21	18	15	15	16	15	17	−6.1	−12.5
Total	242	253	258	276	264	306	272	248	70	72	67	63	57	62	59	70	0.4	−8.8
All man-made fibres																		
Synthetic	268	291	337	357	373	454	396	363	105	104	102	85	79	94	88	102	4.4	−8.3
Viscose and acetate	271	263	263	255	253	277	232	201	69	71	48	44	51	55	47	48	−4.2	−13.4
Total	539	554	600	612	626	731	628	564	174	175	150	129	130	149	135	150	0.6	−10.2

Output of the hosiery and other knitted goods sector which had been fairly steady in the first three quarters of the year fell by about 12 per cent in the fourth quarter, possibly reflecting the impact of the continuing high level of imports. Most imported goods in this sector are now subject to some form of restraint, the effects of which may not be immediately apparent, but future deliveries should now be held at levels more conducive to the recovery of the UK industry. With the evidence of the fourth quarter that the textile cycle may have finally bottomed out, the present extensive coverage of import controls taking effect and the possible recovery in home demand towards the end of the year an improvement in textile output is expected throughout 1976. An important factor in the immediate future, however, is that British manufacturers should be in a strong position to take advantage of any export opportunities that could arise as other industrial countries lead the way out of the current recession, especially given the relative price advantage of our exports.

Employment (**Table 6**)

During the final quarter of 1975 the labour force in the textiles and clothing industries continued to decline, by 7 and 4 per cent respectively, when compared with the position at mid-December 1974. The scale of redundancies in the textile industry has progressively eased since the first quarter of the year, when a reduction of 20,000 was recorded, with the mid-December figures showing a loss of 4,500 over the previous three months. Employment in the cotton system spinning and doubling industry continued to show the highest rate of decline, 12 per cent over the year ended December 1975, closely followed by the hosiery and other knitted goods industry where a 10 per cent drop was recorded. In clothing the main impact of the recession was also felt in the first quarter, with a loss of 7,000 employees but a pronounced tapering off in the rate of reduction is evident in the December 1975 figures.

Prices (**Table 5**)

Against an increase of 21 per cent for all manufactured products, the price indices of output for textile and clothing products rose by 9 and 14 per cent respectively during the final quarter of 1975 compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. This reflects the weak state of textile demand in the UK economy. Notably, prices in the hosiery and knitted goods sector stabilised in the second half of 1975 and woven cotton cloth registered little change over the year as a whole. Prices of raw wool and cotton began to rise again in the second quarter, following a year of decline, and the latest figures indicate that this upward movement continued into 1976. Man-made fibre prices continued to advance from the relatively weak position in the first half of the year and rose by 6 per cent in the twelve months ended 31 December.

After an increase of 3 per cent in the third quarter of 1975, the price index of materials and fuel purchases by the textile industry advanced by a further 5 per cent during the fourth quarter bringing the total annual increase on this account to 15 per cent.

TABLE 4 Consumption of fibres

Million kilogrammes

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1974 1st qtr.	1974 2nd qtr.	1974 3rd qtr.	1974 4th qtr.	1975 1st qtr.	1975 2nd qtr.	1975 3rd qtr.	1975 4th qtr.	Growth rate per cent per annum 1968/75	Growth per cent 12 months ended Q4-1975/ Q4-1975
In cotton spinning																		
Raw cotton	172	169	165	140	129	126	111	103	26	30	27	28	25	26	23	29	−6.9	−7.2
Man-made staple fibre																		
Rayon	43	39	33	34	32	36	39	30	9	11	10	9	8	9	6	7	−5.0	−23.1
Other	16	23	32	36	34	37	30	30	7	9	7	7	7	8	6	9	2.5	nil
In top making wool spinning and felting																		
Wool and animal hair	192	190	166	151	165	149	121	122	31	36	28	26	30	32	28	32	−6.3	0.8
Man-made staple fibre	76	80	84	77	86	105	103	86	24	30	25	24	24	24	18	20	1.8	−16.5

TABLE 5 Prices

Index numbers 1970 = 100

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1974 1st qtr.	1974 2nd qtr.	1974 3rd qtr.	1974 4th qtr.	1975 1st qtr.	1975 2nd qtr.	1975 3rd qtr.	1975 4th qtr.
Price index numbers of output (home sales):																
All manufactured products	89.9	93.4	100.0	109.0	114.8	123.2	152.0	188.7	138.3	148.9	156.1	164.9	176.0	186.3	193.4	199.2
Textile industries	94.1	96.9	100.0	104.9	112.2	131.7	162.2	178.6	151.6	160.4	166.5	170.1	172.9	175.7	180.7	185.1
Man-made fibre cloth	93.7	96.0	100.0	106.8	114.8	132.7	172.6	194.9	152.8	167.0	182.0	188.4	189.3	189.6	196.3	204.3
Cotton cloth	85.0	91.7	100.0	108.0	117.4	138.9	193.8	190.2	183.6	192.8	201.0	197.7	190.9	190.6	188.5	190.8
Worsted cloth	92.1	95.8	100.0	103.9	118.0	173.3	189.8	202.2	188.0	191.1	191.0	189.0	189.0	201.5	207.1	211.0
Socks, stockings and tights (inc. pantihose)	100.7	100.9	100.0	100.9	102.3	107.1	119.4	134.2	112.1	118.2	122.1	125.0	129.6	132.5	136.7	138.0
Knitted underwear and nightwear	93.0	97.1	100.0	104.2	111.1	126.8	154.7	178.5	141.5	148.9	158.7	169.5	174.1	175.4	182.1	182.5
Knitted outerwear	97.0	98.2	100.0	101.5	105.3	119.0	140.8	157.8	132.9	138.2	144.8	147.1	153.6	156.5	160.6	160.4
Carpets	93.6	96.6	100.0	104.9	111.7	130.2	153.1	177.8	141.5	150.6	158.8	161.6	169.5	171.2	180.2	190.5
Made-up clothing	94.3	96.4	100.0	106.4	112.3	119.4	138.3	159.4	131.1	135.2	140.2	146.7	152.6	156.3	161.9	166.7
Price index numbers of material and fuel purchased:																
Textile industries:	97.2	98.6	100.0	104.8	119.0	166.7	190.0	201.9	192.2	191.2	190.0	186.4	189.8	198.9	204.0	214.9
Commodities wholly or mainly imported:																
Raw cotton	104.4	96.4	100.0	112.9	116.6	204.2	229.5	196.9	293.8	228.9	212.9	182.3	165.8	188.6	209.6	223.7
Raw wool	117.6	112.4	100.0	94.9	156.3	332.3	250.3	210.7	308.5	264.9	232.2	195.7	194.0	208.9	212.1	227.8
Man-made fibres	97.9	98.5	100.0	103.1	103.6	105.8	137.9	156.9	111.5	136.5	149.5	154.1	152.7	152.2	159.8	162.8

TABLE 6 Employment in textiles (a)

Thousands

	MLH	Mar. 1974	June 1974	Sept. 1974	Dec. 1974	Mar. 1975	June 1975	Sept. 1975	Dec. 1975
Great Britain									
Textiles	411-429	544.6	545.9	544.6	530.3	510.5	503.8	497.5	493.0
Production of man-made fibres	411	37.5	38.7	38.6	36.8	35.4	34.7	34.7	35.1
Spinning and doubling on the cotton and flax systems	412	59.4	59.5	59.5	58.1	54.5	53.2	52.5	51.2
Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres	413	46.9	47.1	47.4	46.7	45.5	46.0	45.0	43.9
Woollen and worsted	414	101.3	101.1	99.2	94.9	92.3	93.4	90.6	88.7
Hosiery and other knitted goods	417	124.5	124.9	126.2	124.7	117.6	115.0	113.0	112.6
Carpets	419	42.8	42.5	42.0	40.9	39.5	38.9	38.0	37.5
Textile finishing	423	50.3	49.8	50.1	48.3	46.9	45.9	46.8	47.2
Clothing	441-449	321.7	320.4	321.7	322.5	315.3	311.5	308.7	308.0

(a) Employees in employment at middle of each month.

TABLE 7 Crude trade balance (a)

£ million at current prices

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1974 1st qtr.	1974 2nd qtr.	1974 3rd qtr.	1974 4th qtr.	1975 1st qtr.	1975 2nd qtr.	1975 3rd qtr.	1975 4th qtr.
Textile fibres (Div. 26)																
Exports	93.2	101.8	96.4	87.3	108.1	172.1	201.8	183.5	55.0	61.1	48.7	37.0	43.2	52.1	41.3	46.9
Imports	219.4	210.4	183.9	150.0	213.7	322.4	310.5	263.4	88.9	92.8	72.2	56.6	56.1	74.2	70.4	62.7
Balance	−126.2	−108.6	−87.6	−62.7	−105.6	−150.3	−108.7	−79.9	−33.9	−31.7	−23.5	−19.6	−12.9	−22.1	−29.1	−15.8
Textile yarns, fabrics, etc. (Div. 65)																
Exports	309.3	360.6	396.8	425.8	445.4	589.5	745.8	698.2	179.5	204.6	178.6	183.1	165.1	174.5	161.4	197.2
Imports	231.2	238.7	256.4	324.9	369.7	514.9	688.2	682.8	169.5	167.9	180.0	170.8	166.8	166.0	167.4	182.6
Balance	+78.1	+121.9	+140.4	+100.9	+75.7	+74.6	+57.6	+15.4	+10.0	+36.7	−1.4	+12.3	−1.7	+8.5	−6.0	+14.6
Clothing (Div. 84)																
Exports	84.5	108.5	123.1	129.5	144.3	179.6	230.0	265.5	44.3	50.8	66.2	68.7	52.5	54.8	75.2	83.0
Imports	110.1	124.5	129.4	178.2	218.8	333.6	402.4	505.1	105.6	102.1	102.5	92.2	111.0	125.1	130.7	138.3
Balance	−25.6	−16.0	−6.3	−48.7	−74.5	−154.0	−172.4	−239.6	−61.3	−51.3	−36.3	−23.5	−58.5	−70.3	−55.5	−55.3

(a) Imports cif, exports fob.

TABLE 8 Imports

£ million at current prices (cif)

	Textile fibres (Div. 26)			Textile yarns, fabrics and made-up articles (Div. 65)										Clothing (Div. 84)		
	Man-made fibres, tow and waste (266)	Wool tops (262.8)	Total textile fibres	Woollen and worsted yarns (651.2)	Cotton yarns and thread (651.3 and .4)	Continuous filament yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Spun man-made fibre yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Cotton woven fabrics (652)	Woollen and worsted woven fabrics (653.2)	Man-made fibre woven fabrics (653.5 and 6)	Knitted fabrics (653.7)	Carpets (657.5 and .6)	Total yarns, fabrics etc.	Made-up clothing (841.1 and .2)	Hosiery and knitted garments (part* 841.4)	Total clothing
1968	17.4	2.3	219.4	2.0	8.8	25.4	3.6	67.3	8.8	33.0	7.0	18.8	231.2	58.4	44.9	110.1
1969	15.3	3.2	210.4	2.6	9.1	38.0	4.8	58.0	7.6	36.4	9.6	18.1	238.7	68.8	49.0	124,5
1970	13.3	3.3	183.9	3.9	9.8	38.4	5.6	53.5	7.6	42.2	13.0	20.1	256.4	70.7	51.4	129.4
1971	16.9	2.8	150.0	4.1	10.2	54.2	7.3	70.4	7.9	57.1	16.6	22.0	324.9	99.6	68.8	178,2
1972	24.9	4.3	213.7	6.3	12.5	52.8	9.2	74.2	8.2	78.6	14.0	28.0	369.7	123.7	82.7	218.8
1973	35.4	5.3	322.4	11.0	15.5	70.7	17.0	103.5	11.8	115.3	12.7	41.4	514.9	197.8	112.3	333.6
1974	57.2	4.8	310.5	9.5	42.8	105.2	30.2	130.5	13.5	154.5	16.4	44.9	688.2	243.9	134.1	402.4
1975	45.5	3.8	263.4	11.1	28.3	92.2	28.7	125.7	16.6	167.2	18.5	49.5	682.8	307.5	166.7	505.1
1973																
4th qtr.	9.7	2.0	75.1	2.8	5.1	21.0	5.0	29.1	3.1	34.5	3.5	11.6	148.0	56.8	32.3	97.1
1974																
1st qtr.	11.8	1.2	88.9	2.2	10.7	17.8	6.5	42.3	3.2	37.6	3.5	10.7	169.5	64.3	35.6	105.6
2nd qtr.	14.7	1.6	92.8	2.7	11.4	26.7	7.8	31.1	3.8	35.3	3.9	10.3	167.9	63.4	32.9	102.1
3rd qtr.	18.2	1.0	72.2	2.2	11.1	34.6	8.3	28.4	3.4	39.4	4.6	12.5	180.0	61.5	34.9	102.5
4th qtr.	12.5	1.1	56.6	2.4	9.6	26.1	7.6	28.7	3.1	42.2	4.4	11.4	170.8	54.7	30.7	92.2
1975																
1st qtr.	10.4	1.0	56.1	2.2	6.6	20.7	5.9	31.7	3.2	44.5	3.6	12.7	166.8	68.0	37.2	111.0
2nd qtr.	10.8	0.8	74.2	3.0	6.8	20.6	6.8	29.8	5.0	41.4	4.3	11.7	166.0	79.4	39.5	125.1
3rd qtr.	12.1	1.1	70.4	2.8	7.0	24.9	7.0	30.1	5.0	39.9	5.4	11.5	167.4	75.7	45.9	130.7
4th qtr.	12.2	0.9	62.7	3.1	7.9	26.0	9.0	34.1	3.4	41.4	5.2	13.6	182.6	84.4	44.1	138.3

* Less 841.45
Source: Overseas Trade Statistics.

TABLE 9 Exports

£ million at current prices (fob)

	Textile fibres (Div. 26)			Textile yarns, fabrics and made-up articles (Div. 65)										Clothing (Div. 84)		
	Man-made fibres, tow and waste (266)	Wool tops (262.8)	Total textile fibres	Woollen and worsted yarns (651.2)	Cotton yarns and thread (651.3 and .4)	Continuous filament yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Spun man-made fibre yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Cotton woven fabrics (652)	Woollen and worsted woven fabrics (653.2)	Man-made fibre woven fabrics (653.5 and 6)	Knitted fabrics (653.7)	Carpets (657.5 and .6)	Total yarns, fabrics etc.	Made-up clothing (841.1 and .2)	Hosiery and knitted garments (part* 841.4)	Total clothing
1968	33.6	24.0	93.2	20.4	10.7	46.1	4.3	28.2	66.5	20.6	11.4	29.5	309.3	45.7	26.2	84.5
1969	42.3	26.6	101.8	23.3	11.4	53.7	7.0	28.4	71.3	27.5	21.2	37.3	360.6	58.5	34.1	108.5
1970	47.0	20.4	96.4	23.4	11.0	68.6	8.6	26.7	70.1	32.3	38.9	39.4	396.8	60.5	45.0	123.1
1971	45.5	16.3	87.3	23.3	10.1	80.4	9.6	28.6	62.8	31.6	54.4	43.5	425.8	61.8	49.0	129.5
1972	56.5	19.8	108.1	27.3	11.7	83.8	10.9	29.0	66.9	37.4	43.2	51.6	445.4	70.2	53.5	144.3
1973	77.7	38.1	172.1	37.0	17.0	110.0	18.6	39.5	91.5	49.9	43.1	78.2	589.5	86.9	68.0	179.6
1974	118.7	26.2	201.8	41.6	22.0	136.5	28.1	52.0	106.6	68.6	44.9	100.6	745.8	113.4	81.8	230.0
1975	101.3	28.6	183.5	37.5	18.5	112.8	23.3	46.9	92.5	68.2	44.3	94.9	698.2	137.1	89.3	265.5
1973																
4th qtr.	23.6	8.3	47.1	9.4	4.6	28.9	6.1	12.1	24.6	15.3	10.5	23.9	164.6	26.3	22.1	56.4
1974																
1st qtr.	29.3	8.6	55.0	10.5	5.0	37.4	6.9	11.9	24.6	15.8	10.8	24.5	179.5	22.0	15.4	44.3
2nd qtr.	35.7	7.8	61.1	12.1	5.7	41.5	8.0	13.6	29.8	18.4	11.6	26.9	204.6	26.2	16.5	50.8
3rd qtr.	33.1	4.9	48.7	9.6	5.7	29.2	6.6	12.6	26.4	16.8	11.3	23.1	178.6	31.6	24.9	66.2
4th qtr.	20.6	4.9	37.0	9.4	5.6	28.4	6.6	13.9	25.8	17.6	11.2	26.1	183.1	33.6	25.0	68.7
1975																
1st qtr.	26.2	5.2	43.2	8.3	4.6	26.9	5.9	12.1	21.9	17.6	8.2	22.2	165.1	27.0	17.2	52.5
2nd qtr.	32.1	7.0	52.1	9.4	4.4	28.0	5.9	10.7	24.4	16.7	11.8	22.2	174.5	29.8	16.8	54.8
3rd qtr.	21.4	8.0	41.3	8.7	3.9	25.8	4.6	11.2	23.8	15.0	11.4	20.5	161.4	37.9	26.8	75.2
4th qtr.	21.6	8.4	46.9	11.1	5.6	32.1	6.9	12.9	22.4	18.9	12.9	30.0	197.2	42.4	28.5	83.0

* Less 841.45
Source: Overseas Trade Statistics.

TABLE 10 Imports of raw materials

£ million at current prices (cif)

	Greasy wool (262.1)		Degreased wool (262.2)		Fine animal hair (262.3)		Raw cotton* (263.1)	
	mn kg	£m	mn kg	£m	mn kg	£m	mn kg	£m
1968	181	73	66	26	13	11	193	51
1969	171	73	64	26	15	14	162	43
1970	149	58	57	22	10	9	167	44
1971	99	33	62	21	9	5	142	41
1972	130	56	77	23	18	13	137	44
1973	95	93	56	55	15	26	171	66
1974	65	67	56	48	9	21	93	61
1975	84	58	48	37	11	22	113	59
1973 4th qtr.	15	17	8	9	3	7	41	21
1974 1st qtr.	23	26	..	13	2	5	28	18
2nd qtr.	20	21	..	15	3	8	27	18
3rd qtr.	16	13	..	13	2	4	16	11
4th qtr.	6	7	..	7	2	4	22	14
1975 1st qtr.	19	13	8	6	2	3	23	11
2nd qtr.	29	19	16	12	3	6	32	16
3rd qtr	20	14	15	12	3	6	32	17
4th qtr.	16	12	9	7	3	7	26	15

* 1968-69 includes small amount of carded or combed cotton.
Source: Overseas Trade Statistics.

Tables 7-10 Overseas Trade

The overall trade deficit for textiles and clothing in 1975 stood at the record level of £304 million compared with £224 million in 1974. The main contributory factor to this deterioration was a major increase in clothing imports (in current prices) which in the final quarter rose to £138 million, a 50 per cent increase on the £92 million recorded in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Expectation of imminent restraints on consignments from low cost Far Eastern producers probably bolstered this surge; at a much lower level deliveries from East European sources showed significant gains on 1974 performance.

Over the year as a whole, clothing imports rose to £505 million from £402 million in 1974, an increase of 25.5 per cent. The pressure of imports on the home market in 1976 should ease because of the anticipation in 1975 of 1976 quotas. Improved export performance during 1975 – £265 million compared with £230 million in 1974 – only partly countered the growth of imports, leaving the trade deficit on clothing at £240 million against £172 million in 1974.

The textile fibres sector recorded a smaller deficit than in the three previous years and the final adverse balance of £80 million (against £109 million in 1974) reflects a pronounced fall of £47 million in the value of imports with a reduction of only £18 million on the export account, the bulk of which was attributable to man-made fibres. Comparison with corresponding periods of the previous year reveals, however, that total exports of fibres in the final quarter of 1975 increased by 27 per cent, reversing the downward trend of the three preceding quarters.

The erosion of the surplus on the yarns and fabrics account continued in 1975. This has been falling since 1970 due to an increasing ratio of imports to exports and by the end of the year stood at the low level of £15 million compared with £140 million in 1970. In contrast with past experience, exports suffered a set back in 1975, although the final quarter's figures hold out the promise of an early recovery, with particularly encouraging results in the carpets and continuous filament yarn sectors. The total value of yarn and fabrics imports appears to have stabilised at just below the 1974 level and it is noticeable that the build-up of the first half of 1974 appears to have been contained. Within the total, however, imports of man-made fibre woven fabrics, after momentarily faltering in the third quarter, moved upwards to regain the level of the second quarter; over the year as a whole an 8 per cent increase in value on 1974 was registered; in terms of volume the increase was slightly less at 5 per cent.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 16 April 1976.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Sea The Caribbean	BR/E 38548/18/4/81	21	13 April	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd.	Global Films Ltd. and Queensway Promotions Ltd.
Shout At The Devil	BR/E 38549/18/4/81	138	13 April	Hemdale International Films Ltd.	Tonav Film Productions Ltd.
Luther	BR/E 38553/18/4/81	112	14 April	Seven Keys Ltd.	The Ely Landau Organization Ltd.
Movietone News 2445	BR/E 38353/18/4/81	8	15 April	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			FOREIGN		
The Duchess And The Dirtwater Fox	F 38550	104	14 April	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation, California
Dr. Jekyll And The Werewolf	F 38551	83	14 April	Ranworth Film Services Ltd.	Arturo Gonzales Cinematografica, Madrid
Banapple Gas	F 38552	4	14 April	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd.	Astar Music BV, California

Government Publications in the North

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Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	28 Nov. 1975
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	This week
trends in invisible transactions	16 Apr. 1976
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcies *see* Insolvencies	
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	2 Apr. 1976
By regions	27 Feb. 1976
Catering trades turnover (M)	16 Apr. 1976
Census of production (A)	2 Apr. 1976
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	2 Apr. 1976
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	27 Feb. 1976
Liquidations *see* Insolvencies	6 Feb. 1976
liquidity (Q)	12 Mar. 1976
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	19 Mar. 1976
N. Ireland (M)	2 Apr. 1976
rate of return on capital	24 Oct. 1975
Construction work overseas (A)	17 Oct. 1975
EEC economic indicators	2 Apr. 1976
Energy trends (M)	9 Apr. 1976
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	This week
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	16 Apr. 1976
cinema admissions and takings (M)	9 Apr. 1976
overseas payments and earnings (A)	8 Aug. 1975
registrations of films (A)	30 Jan. 1976
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	10 Oct. 1975
household consumption (Q)	12 Mar. 1976
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	16 Apr. 1976
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	9 Apr. 1976
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	9 Jan. 1976
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Hire-purchase business (M)	9 Apr. 1976
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	This week
N. Ireland index	21 Nov. 1975
Wales	16 Apr. 1976
Insolvencies	6 Feb. 1967
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	22 Aug. 1975
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	9 Jan. 1976
investment and earnings overseas (A)	14 Mar. 1975
(amendment)	21 Mar. 1975
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	13 Feb. 1976
production (M)	13 Feb. 1976
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	13 Feb. 1976
Metal working machine tools: sales and orders (M)	9 Apr. 1976
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	26 Mar. 1976
estimated figures (M)	16 Apr. 1976
motor trade turnover (Q)	20 Feb. 1976
Office development permits (Q)	12 Mar. 1976
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	11 Apr. 1975
analysis of trends (Q)	12 Mar. 1976
ten-year back run (A)	12 Mar. 1976
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	22 Aug. 1975
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Retail prices index (M)	This week
Retail trades:	
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provisional figures (M)	19 Mar. 1976
sales, N. Ireland (M)	2 Apr. 1976
stocks (M)	16 Apr. 1976
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	11 Apr. 1975
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	23 Jan. 1975
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activity in the industry (Q)	This week
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cotton industry production (M)	2 Apr. 1976
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wool output (M)	2 Apr. 1976
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foreign visitor arrivals (M)	19 Mar. 1976
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Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	9 Apr. 1976
index numbers (M)	This week

Departmental organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	16 Apr. 1976
Customs notices of interest to exporters	26 Mar. 1976
ECGD local offices	16 Apr. 1976
Guide to Departments	19 Mar. 1976
Official Receivers' offices	This week
Programme of trade promotions	16 Jan. 1976
Release dates of economic statistics	This week

Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

4 and 5 May 1976 Furniture

Location: RAF Colerne (seven miles east of Bath), Chippenham, Wilts

Auctioneers: Hobbs and Chambers (Dept. CS), The Market Place, Cirencester, Glos GL7 1QQ (tel. 0285-4736)

A sale of mostly single items or small lots to suit personal buyers and include three piece suites, dining table sets, armchairs, fireside chairs, easy chairs and Suffolk chairs. Occasional tables, card tables, office tables, bedside tables and various other tables. Oak sideboards, bureau/bookcases, secretaires, bureaux, settees, etc. Double and single beds, double and single wardrobes, dressing chests, chests of drawers, mirrors, safes, crockery, cutlery, blankets, clothing and textiles.

12 and 13 May 1976 Miscellaneous stores

Location: City Auction Galleries, Kinterbury House, St. Andrew's Cross, Plymouth

Auctioneers: Woolland Son and Manico (Dept. L), Kinterbury House, St. Andrew's Cross, Plymouth PL1 2DQ (tel. 0752-69292)

A large collection of stores which are lying at various depots and establishments in the West Country and include greatcoats, raincoats, jackets, trousers, blouses, jerseys, underwear, shirts, overalls, kitbags, suitcases, blankets, mattress covers, foam mattresses, ankle-flying and knee boots, shoes, hammocks, sleeping bags, capes, groundsheets, bedspreads, sheets, rags, tentage. Wooden and steel furnishings including desks, tables, dining room suites, bookcases, stacking and other chairs, settees, writing tables, bedsteads, lockers, wardrobes, dressing chests. Linen baskets, bunk beds, vaulting horse, gym mats, brushes, mirrors, china and glass ware, carpets and rugs, tea urns, aluminium ware, watches, clocks, binoculars, telescopes, photographic equipment, filing cabinets and office safes. Cutlery, lamps, convector heaters, sewing machines, test meters and test sets, charging sets, gauges, tools, portable drills, electrical spares, tyres, ball and roller bearings, lifting jacks, scrap metal, vices, hoses, 4½ ton of fibreglass, watering cans, Uniport hut, petrol engines, Morris Mini saloon car, Morris 15 cwt van, Bedford diesel 3-ton truck and various other items.

Catalogues for the above sales which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 20p postage and packing 10p extra (postal orders only).

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4 May 1976

View Days:	Day preceding and morning of sale
Location:	Department of the Environment Property Services Agency Supplies Division Store India Pavilion Exhibition Grounds Wembley, Middx. Tel. 01-903 2508
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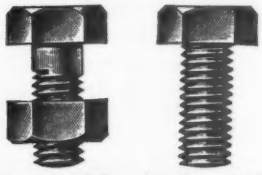

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